

THE  
ARCHITECT  
& BUILDING NEWS

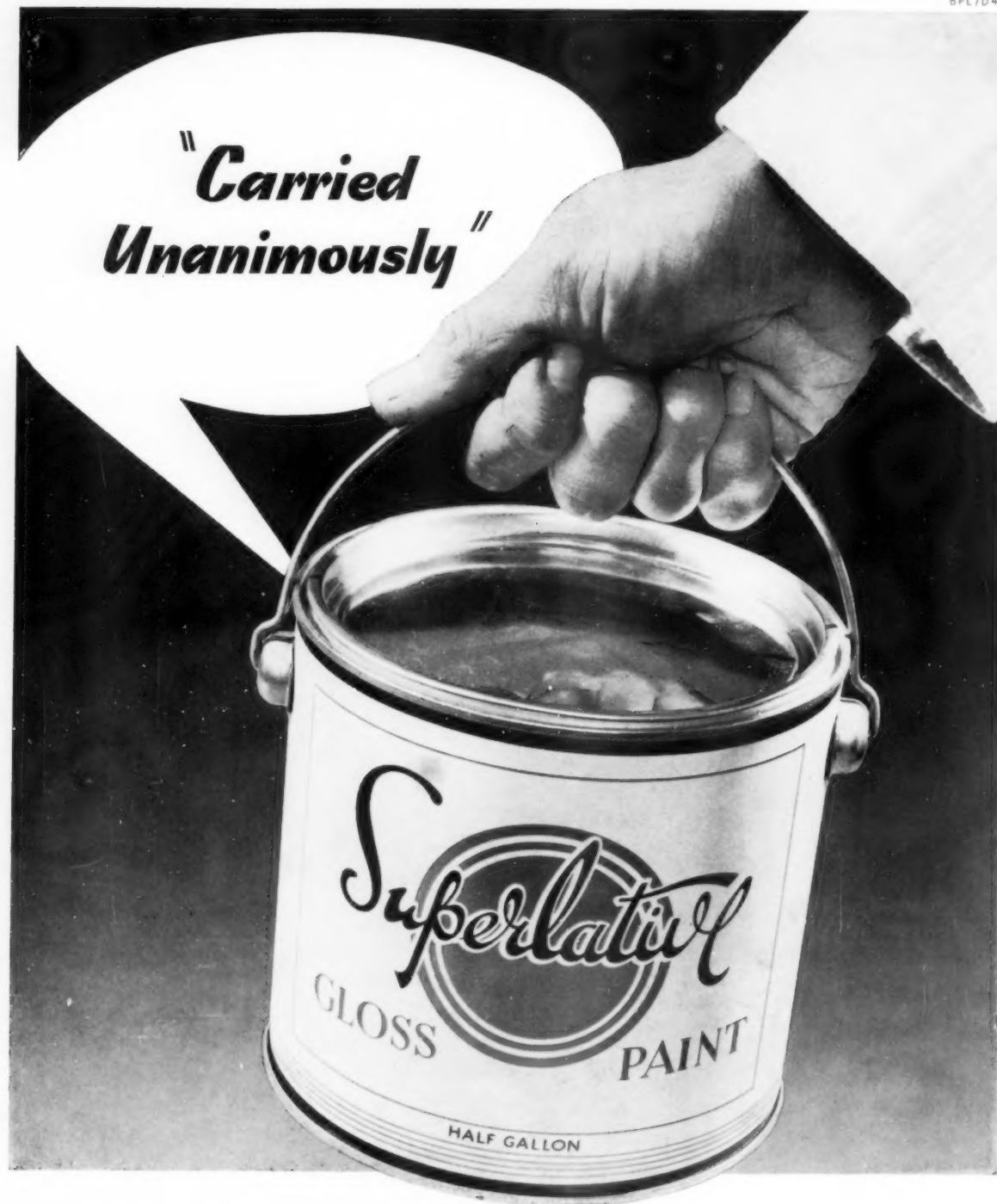
10 MAY 1956 · VOL 209 · NO. 19 · ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

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• ROYAL ACADEMY I

• INFORMATION DIGEST

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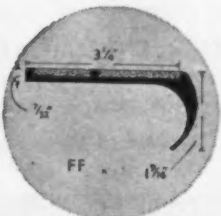
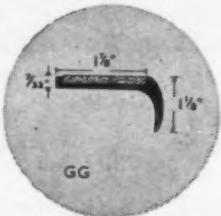
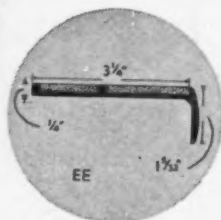
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## FERODO Stairtreads

Quickly available in seven colours and twenty-two shapes



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### Colours

Ferodo composition gives a non slip surface in a wide range of colours: red, white, blue, green, black, brown or grey. Ferodo Fabric is also available in dark brown. There is a choice of nosing colours too; aluminium, manganese bronze & silver bronze.

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## Non-slip Stairtreads

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Many permissible minimum weights greatly reduced

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(SILVER-COPPER-LEAD ALLOY)  
permit the use of  
lighter weight Lead pipe  
underground**

Tables incorporating the new British Standards for Lead pipe to B.S.602 and B.S.1085 have been prepared and are available in a revised edition of "CONCISE INFORMATION ON LEAD PIPE" free on request.



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## Painting Building Surfaces?

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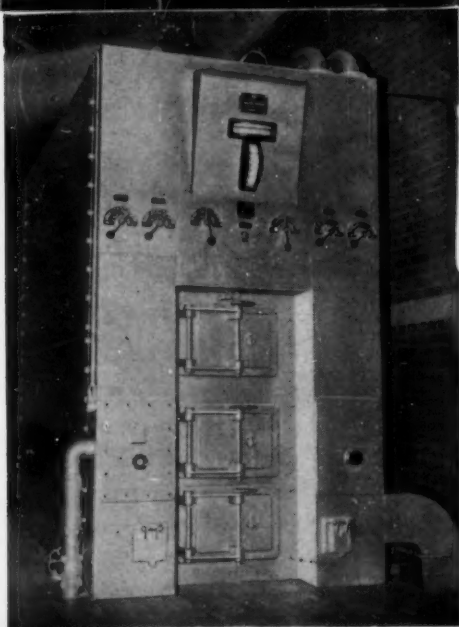
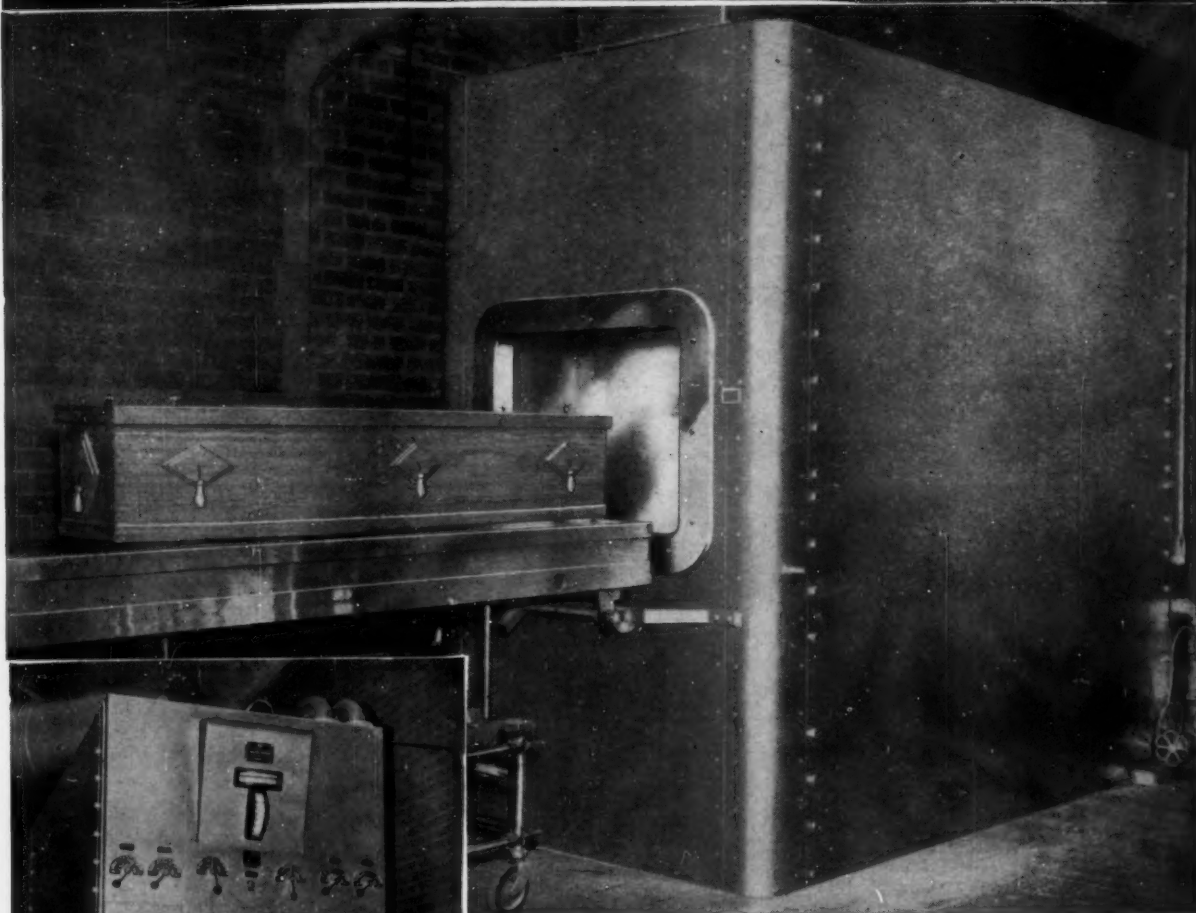
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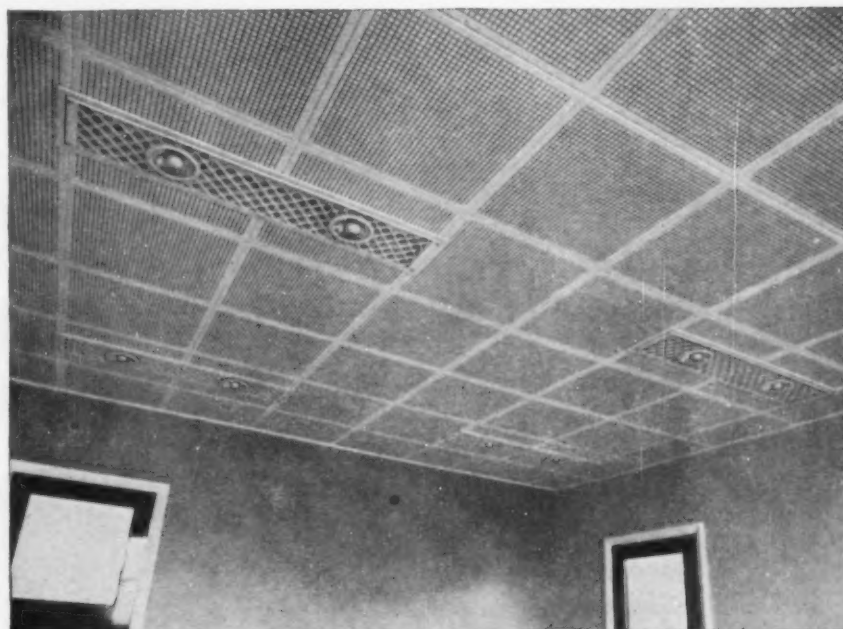
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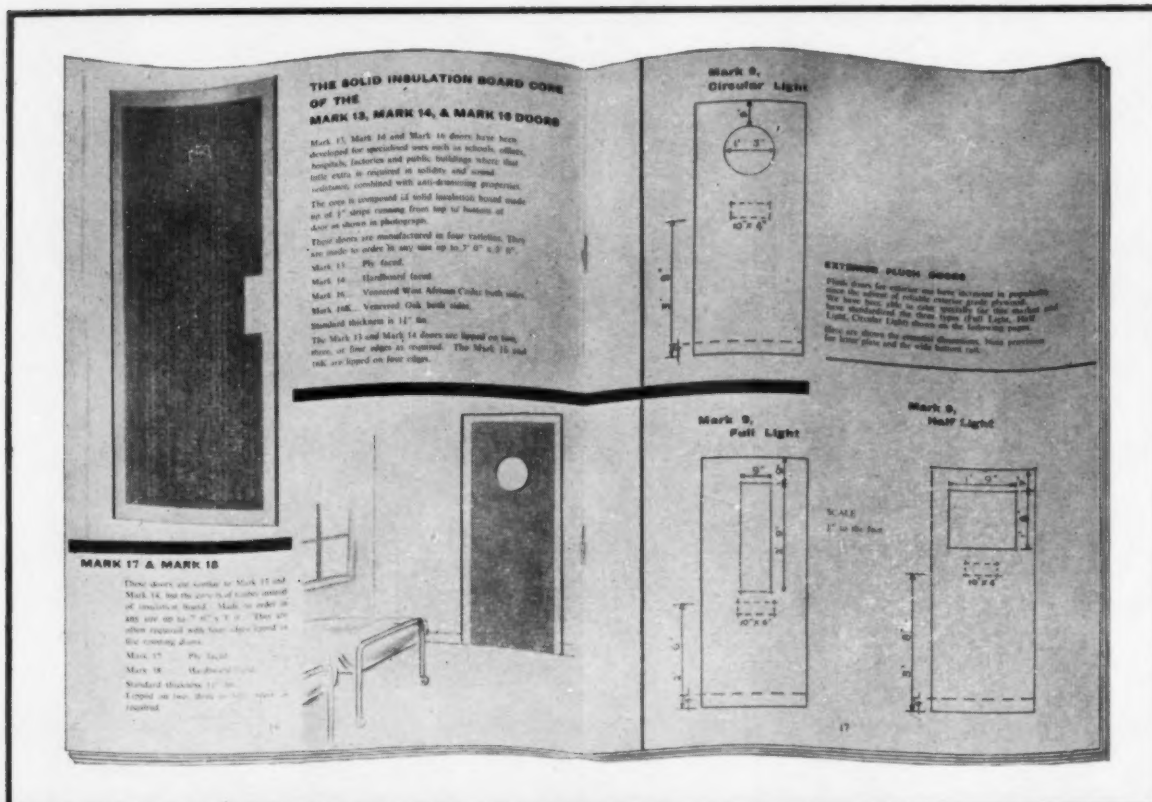
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We reproduce here 2 pages from the new Gliksten Door Catalogue. Contained within its 32 pages is useful information on Flush Doors, Veneered Doors, Hardwood Panel Doors, Oak Gates, Softwood Doors and the Gliksten Fitted Door Service.

## GLIKSTEN DOORS

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## Talking of Snowcem

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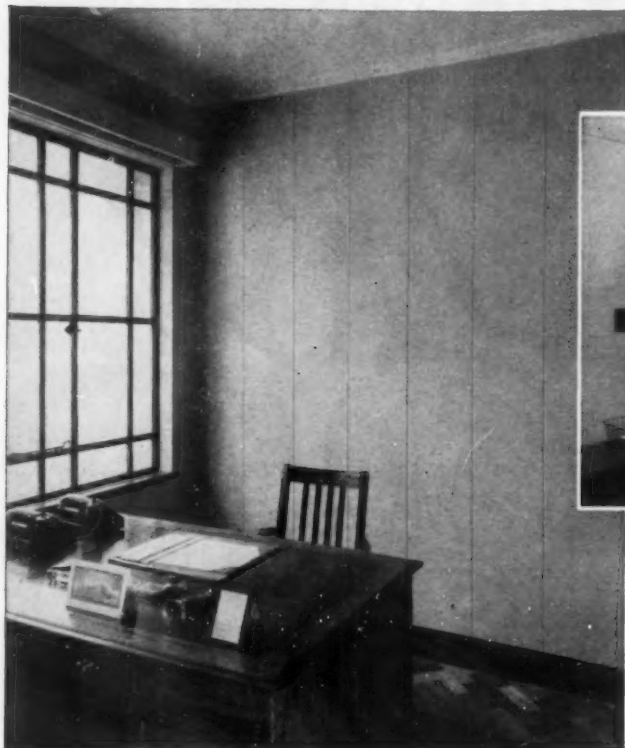
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AND AT BIRMINGHAM MANCHESTER GLASGOW

# PLIMBERITE BUILDING BOARD

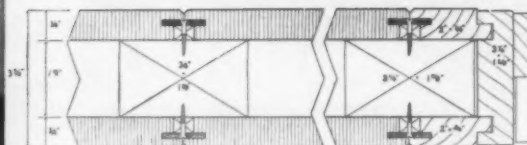
for  
OFFICE  
EXTENSIONS



A Private Office



A Dealing Room



General arrangement at verticals and door openings.

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This extension to the offices has been partitioned entirely with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " PLIMBERITE, and as it was essential that the partitions should be demountable, a modified form of the PLIMBERITE REBOND system was specified, as shown in the detail. The same method was used for lining the corridors.

The edges of the boards were chamfered all round, and the surface V-grooved at 12" centres, to give a panelled effect.

In these offices a high degree of sound insulation was required, and was provided by using double-skin partitioning with PLIMBERITE over vertical sections at 4 ft. centres only. Decoration was by priming with lead-base wood primer, and finishing with emulsion paint.

For technical literature on the many uses of PLIMBERITE and for samples — also the names and addresses of Main Distributors in your area — please write to

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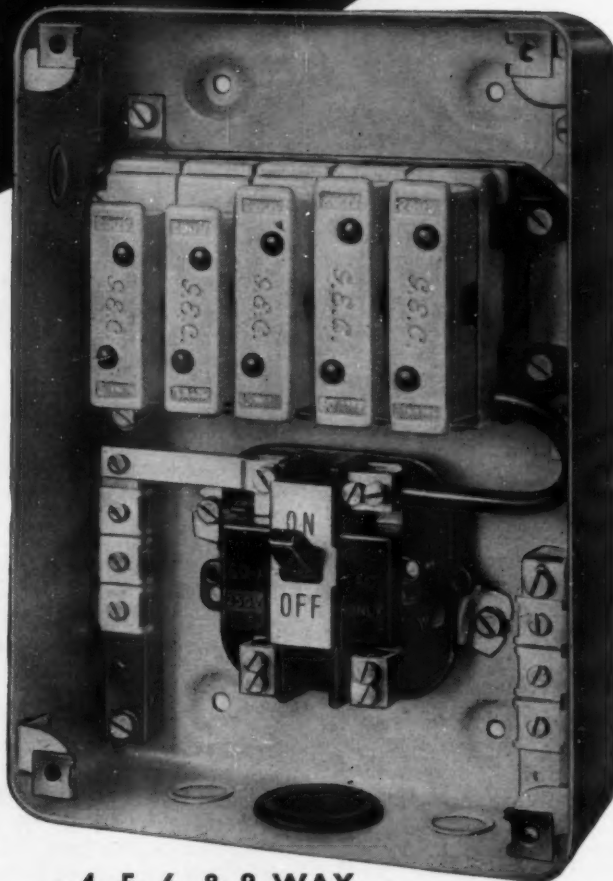
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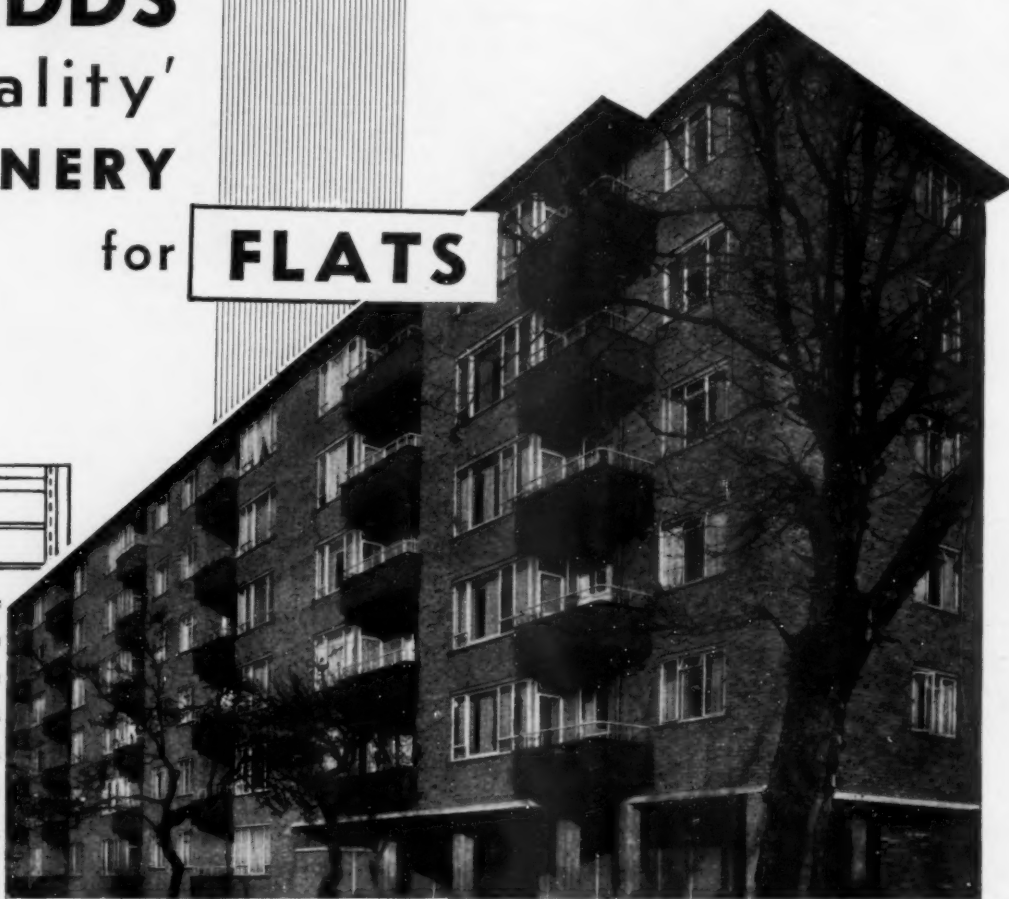
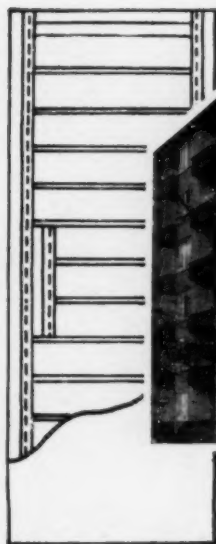


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 WOOD WINDOWS  
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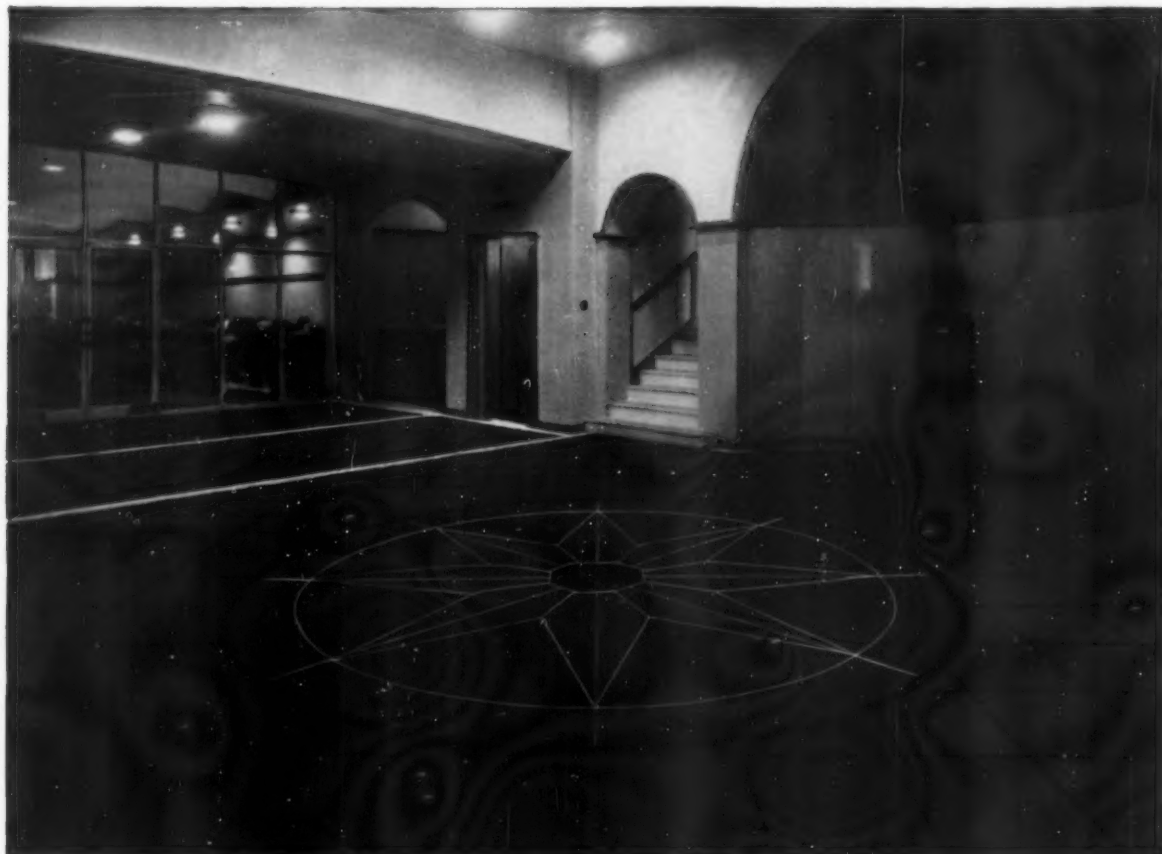
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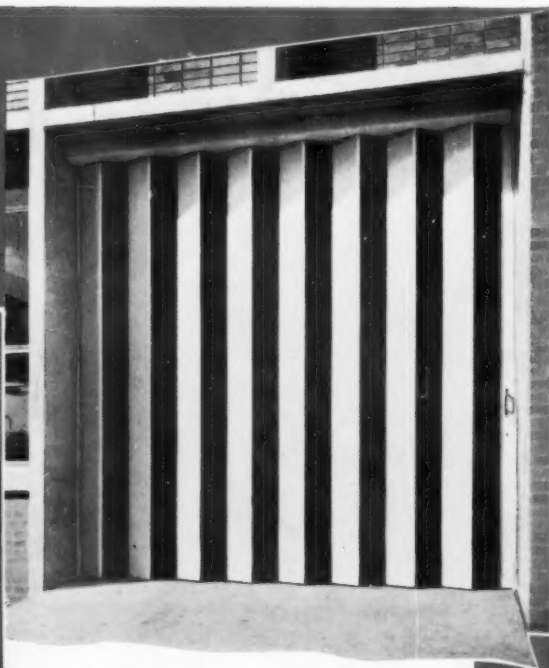
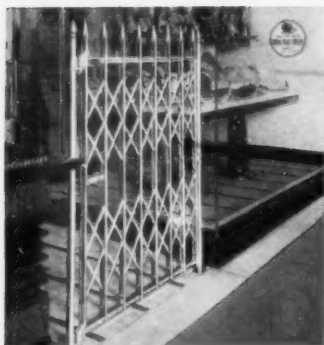
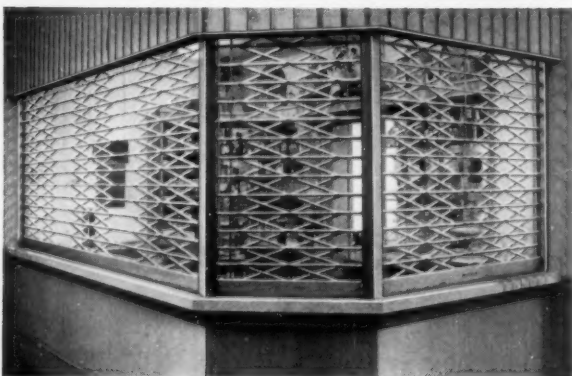
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- (Bottom left) Spearhead Gate.
- (Bottom centre) Multi-Leaf Lift Door.
- (Bottom right) "Glydover" All-Steel Overhead Garage Door.

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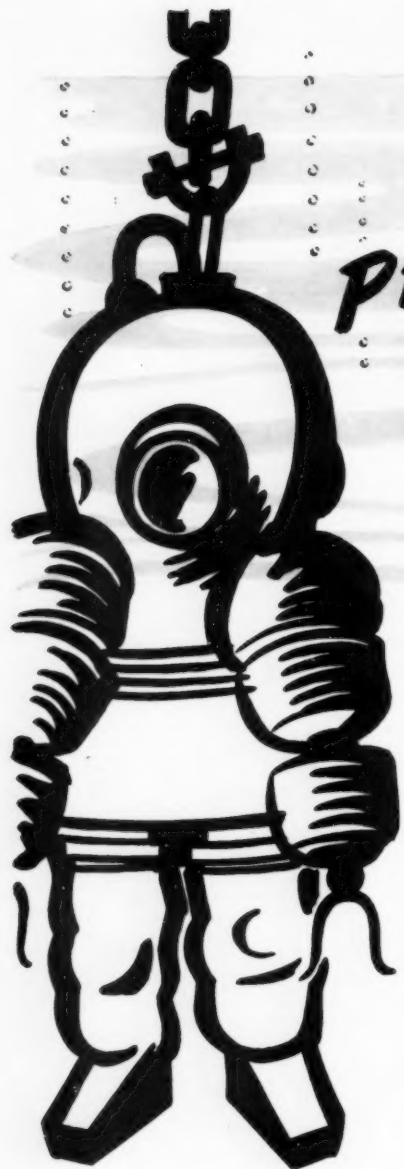
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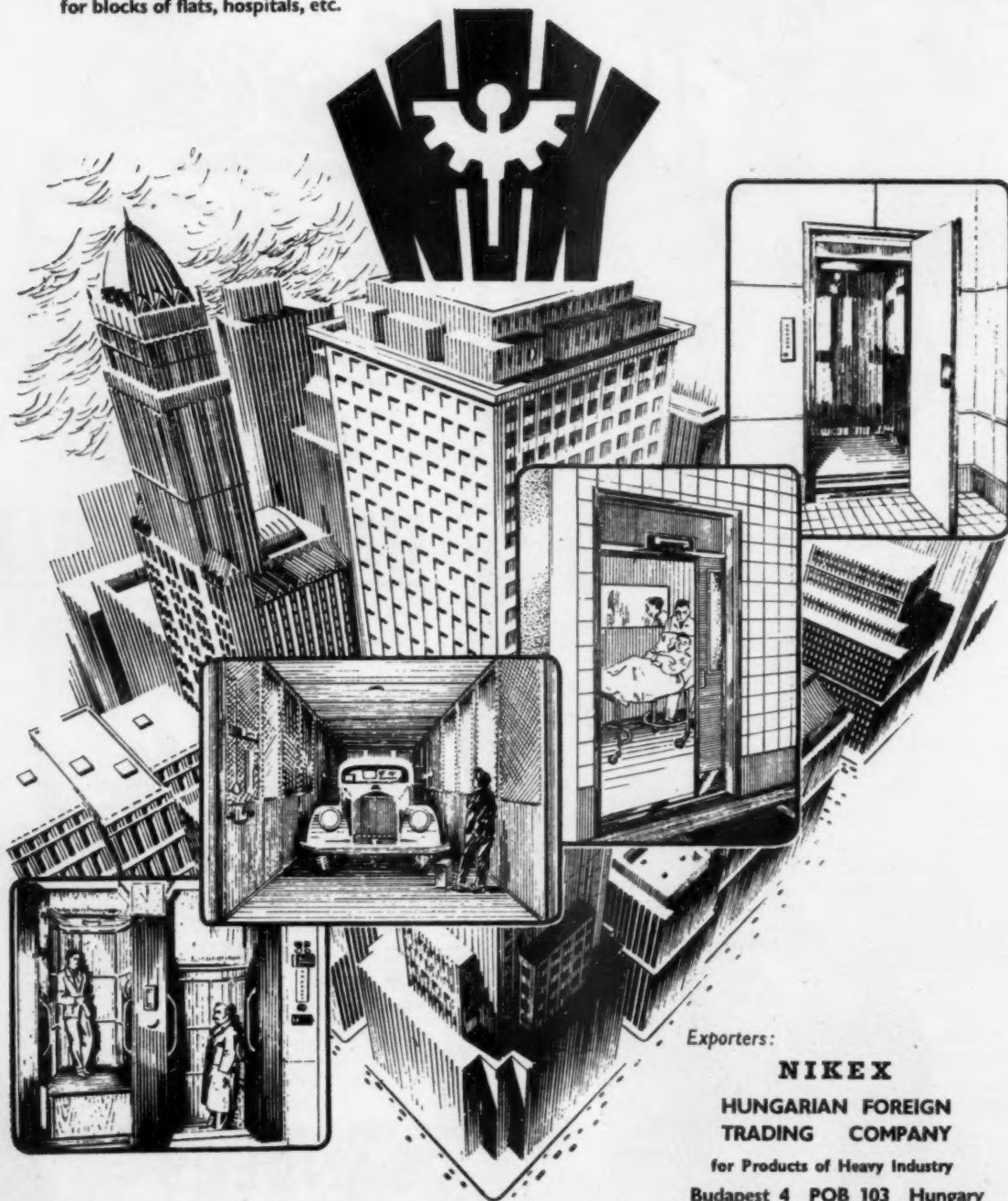
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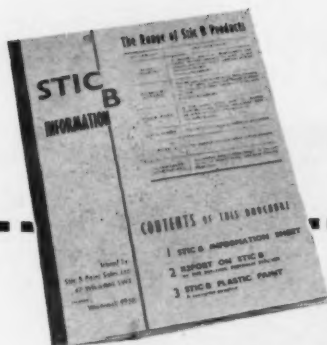
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\* See M.O.E. Building Bulletin No. 13  
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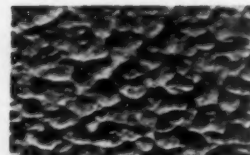
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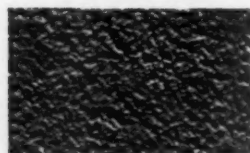
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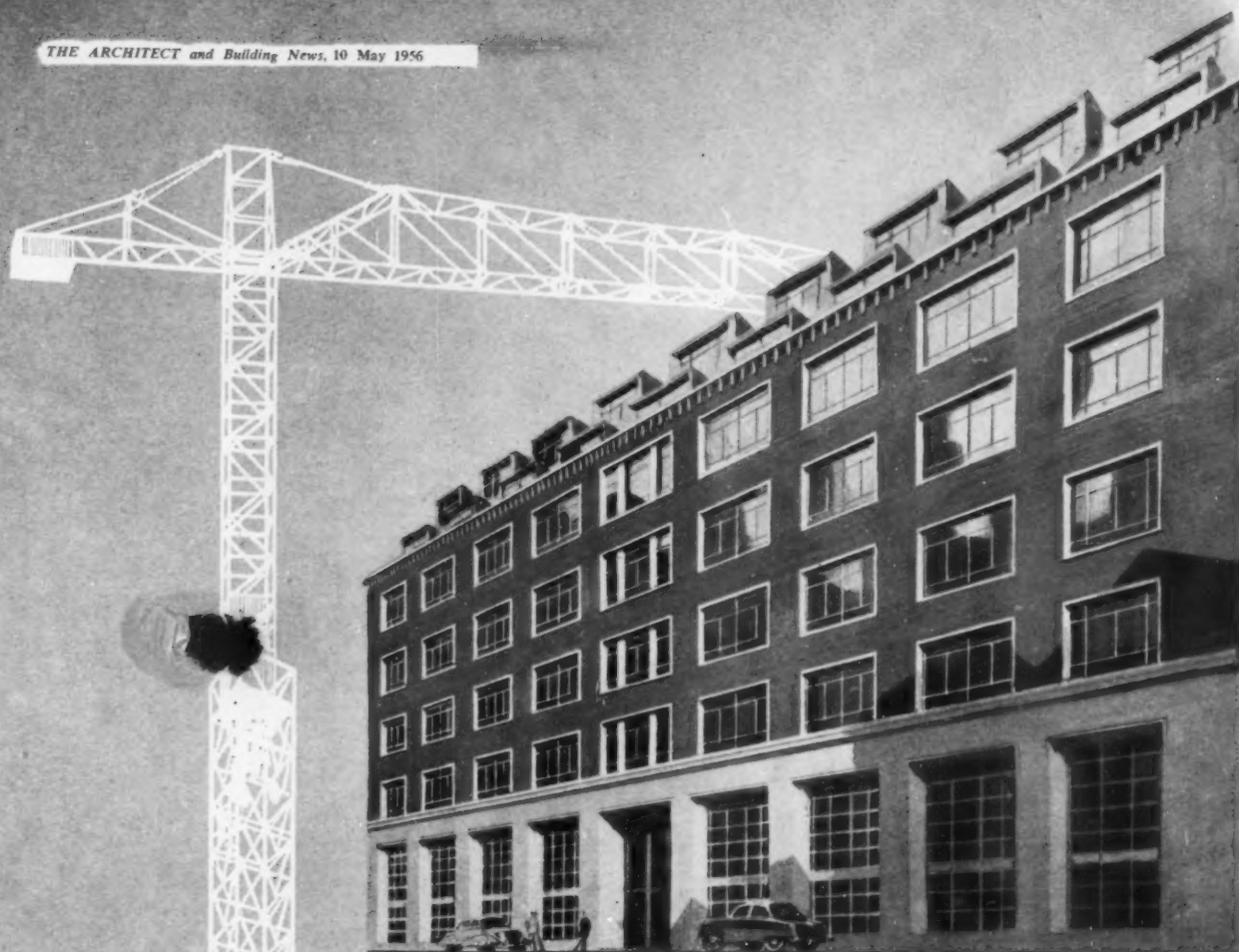
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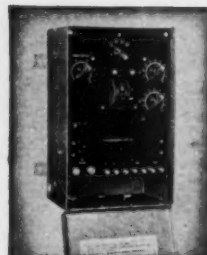
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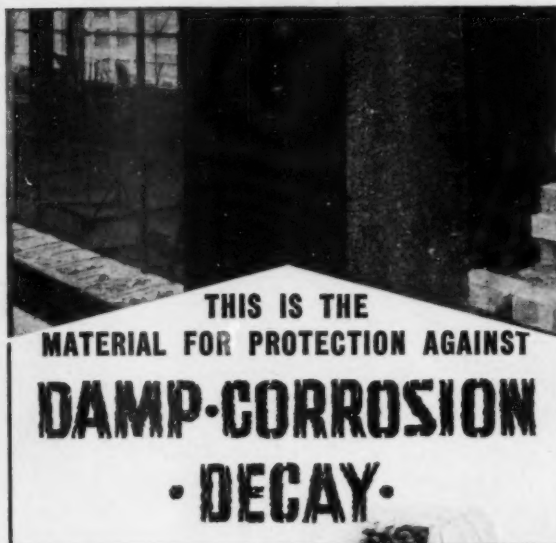
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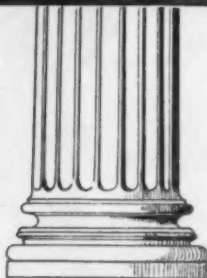
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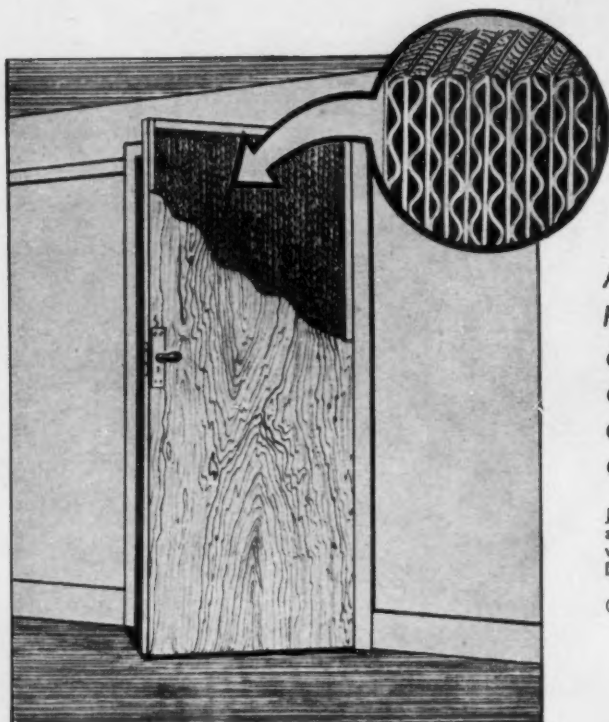


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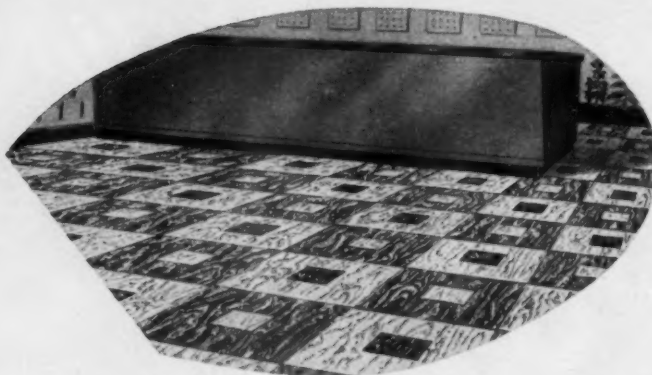
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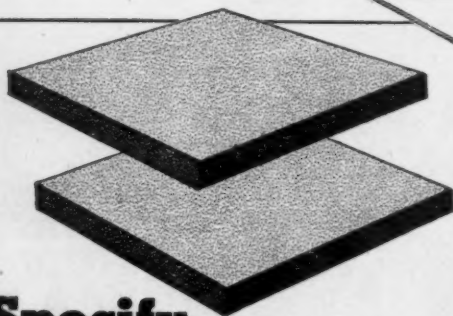
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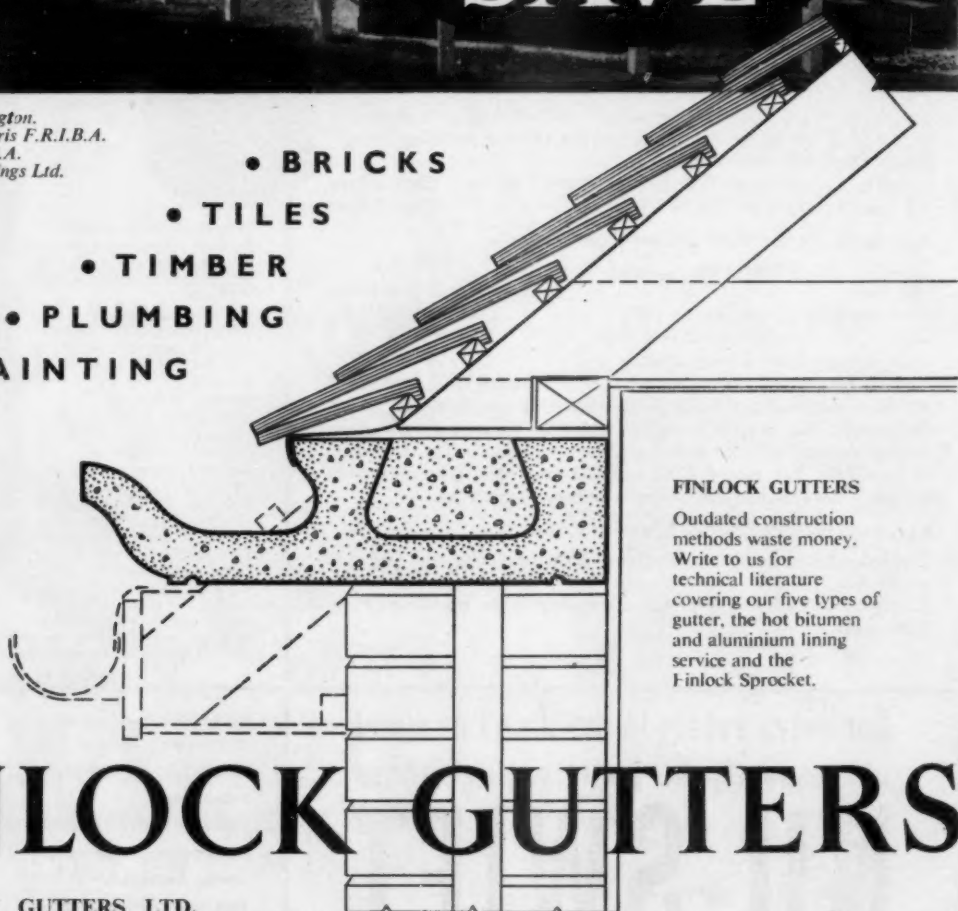
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# THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

May 10, 1956

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## ST. PAUL'S PRECINCTS

**M**ORE than enough has already been said and written about the replanning of St. Paul's precincts. Nevertheless no apology is offered for a last effort to persuade those entrusted with acting on the citizen's behalf to cut the cackle and get on with the business.

When an eminent man has to undergo an operation it is the custom to retain a surgeon whose reputation is roughly proportional to the eminence of the patient. Having arranged the body, breathing stertorously, in a convenient position on the operating table, the surgeon makes the incision. It is now that the surgeon's experience tells. The incision is ample in length and depth for the work to be done. The knife is used firmly but with precision. No avoidable cut is made. The work proceeds quickly.

Is it at this point that the anaesthetist, the assisting surgeon, or a watching student, starts an argument as to whether complete excision of some organ should or should not be carried out? Is it now that the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, or some such, pronounces loudly that a spot of old-fashioned blanket stitch would look much better when the patient is being sewn up again? Would any layman or politician, technically unqualified even if passably educated, dream of making a pronouncement on the surgeon's work?

Why are things so different when the operation is on the heart of the City of London? Are our masters whom we have elected to serve our best interests in central and local government really any more qualified to pontificate on matters of art and architecture than they are on medical science?

They started well and sensibly on the matter. They retained at a reasonable fee a consultant with an international reputation as a planner and architect. They even allowed him what would have been reasonable time and facilities to prepare his scheme. That seems to have exhausted their good sense, for from that point onward the controversy swelled. Sir William Holford was given precious little peace and was immediately subjected to critical blasts from every quarter of the compass. His time and energy were frittered away with argument and objection.

With all the impediments to his work, he has produced a plan for the precincts of St. Paul's and a very

good plan, too, though it has some weaknesses. It is likely that one or two other eminent men could produce plans, nearly, or even quite as good. It is possible that someone might in the course of years produce one just a little better. It is certain that no plan devised, with the City as it is today and with the economics of land and buildings what they now are, could be perfect. If any architect did produce a plan architecturally perfect the tycoons would not let it be put into execution for financial reasons.

The controversy is now a hopeless tangle of aesthetics and economics. One extreme wants a St. Peter's in miniature. But why stop half-way? Why not sweep away everything in between so that the Tower of London becomes a second San Angelo? And then let's have an infilling of nice dead neo-classical. The other extreme, probably the financiers' fancy, is to close St. Paul's up with our English dead-pan blocks of multi-storey office buildings, so that Wren's monument becomes the "Little Church around the Corner". Almost every shade of opinion lies in between. The majority of architectural opinion—and this might reasonably be accepted as the most informed—is that Sir William Holford has produced a fluent, restrained and practical solution. In such an area there must inevitably be conflict between commerce and art. Parliamentary and other architects do their own profession no good by turning on a brother artist.

One must ask whether the latest check is entirely on aesthetic grounds or whether the Minister is now under pressure from property-owning or financial interests. If he is not, is it perhaps in his mind to make his own monument, competing with Augustus Caesar who, in the words of Suetonius, "Urbem marmoream se relinquere quam lateritiam accepisset"? The twentieth century does not provide quite the climate for such grandiose conceptions, nor has a democratically elected politician either the stature or permanency in office to bring them into being. It is hoped that the Profession will confine itself to legitimate criticism and that if any move to call in second opinions is started it will stand corporately and individually loyally behind Sir William.

Let the Minister act upon the advice of the appointed expert.

Let us see an end to talk and a start on work.



## EVENTS AND COMMENTS

### BLACKPOOL IS BRACING

Bracing itself for another record season by the look of it. I was there the other day and marvelled at the way the town is organised to take the last penny off the last holidaymaker. If I were asked to sum up this mammoth resort in two words I would call it Paved Hell, but I must be wrong. Quite apart from the normal season three millions come to see the illuminations in the late summer. During the season itself not a room is to be had; people are now content to hire half a room and to live separated only by a curtain from other lucky people. It cannot be that there is nowhere else to go for there seems to be plenty of brass about (judging by the off season charges in my hotel). Blackpool is an institution and people go there because they like it.

I suppose that when the place is jam-packed with cars and people you do not notice the acres of tarmac and concrete paving, the complete absence of trees or bushes and the astonishing scarcity of grass. No doubt the towels and bathing dresses hanging from windows hide the buildings whose brickwork appears to be in a permanent state of efflorescence. Unlike most British seaside towns, Blackpool has no core of pretty buildings; it has never come down in the world. For the final word in subtopia unalleviated it must be unrivalled. Everything except the tower and some of the kiosks at the shore end of one of the piers, is hideous and kept so by being painted in the most unsuitable colours.

Perhaps the place is better when filled with jolly humanity. A friend asked a hotel waiter what it was like in the season. "Whatever you do, Madam," he said, "don't come." I am inclined to think that he was right. Those shops on the front not concerned with eating and drinking sell souvenirs and postcards. The very vulgar postcards seem to have been weeded out but they have been replaced by equally vulgar practical jokes, itching powder, and only too realistic artificial "crottes de chien" being available in great digestive variety in almost every shop.

All this is not to say that I disliked my visit. I found it very interesting and extremely healthy.

My hotel, built I believe before the Kaiser war, was a most remarkable structure, unspoiled by any concession to fire-resisting construction, but packed with new appliances. The first thing I read on entering the door was a certificate saying that the fire-fighting equipment had recently been inspected. The bedroom floors were divided by what seemed to be 1in reinforced plaster panels with 3 x 1 cover fillets. An early form of dry construction which may even have been modular. These walls allowed conversations two bedrooms away to be heard with perfect clarity. I remarked on this apparently undesirable attribute to a local inhabitant. His reply was that such an arrangement was considered

to be part of the fun of holiday-making at Blackpool, and I began to see why there were so many shops selling rude jokes.

Of course, I went to the tower, but could not go to the top as it was not yet open. Around its roots, however, I found many strange and wonderful things, most curious of which was a threepence-in-the-slot mechanical violin which played quite well by means of a fantastically complicated mechanism. I hope the tower authorities appreciate this treasure. Several rooms here are lined with penny-in-the-slot machines not of the 'What the Butler Saw' variety, but showing animated scenes such as 'Night in the haunted castle', 'the smugglers' cave' and 'father on night-shift' (at the pub). These are mostly period pieces and the figures in them still have Edwardian clothes, the furnishings are period doll's house stuff and many of the machines are quite enchanting. As they are all in working order—I spent several shillings on them—they are at present in no danger of being scrapped, but one day some new broom will sweep them away and they will be lost. I hope that someone will see this who will know how such things can be preserved, perhaps the toy museum would do it, for they are collector's pieces.

The aquarium is excellent and includes fine examples of the fish most commonly eaten by the holidaymaker; the Zoo, though well built, is infinitely depressing, being almost entirely without natural light, while containing several full-sized jungle beasts born there. I must admit that they were very sleek and possibly less unhappy about themselves than I was. There are two delicious fancy wirework monkey cages in the Zoo and a lot more slot machines.

The Tower ballroom is impressive and in style resembles a steam roundabout turned inside out. Drinking a morning coffee in a drab little café, I was struck by the number of solitary elderly men in mackintoshes and well-pressed caps sitting drinking tea while staring into the distance. They looked tired and sad and worn-out. I asked who they could be and learned that almost every big hospital in Lancashire has a convalescent home in Blackpool. Discarded army vehicles with a four-wheeled drive are much used to ferry passengers through the shallow water to sturdy white motor boats. These rusting warriors, waiting for the season, looked almost as sad as the old men.

The Winter Garden building is almost beyond description. Under one roof it has a cinema, an opera house, acres of exhibition space, innumerable bars and several large assembly halls. The style of decoration is impossibly varied but never plain. With the large amount of hotel accommodation available out of season it makes Blackpool one of the best equipped Congress towns in the country.

And the people—well, they are quite charming. They are far more friendly than we are in the south and very quick to spot a visitor. Long before one speaks one is recognised as a foreigner and treated with extreme politeness.



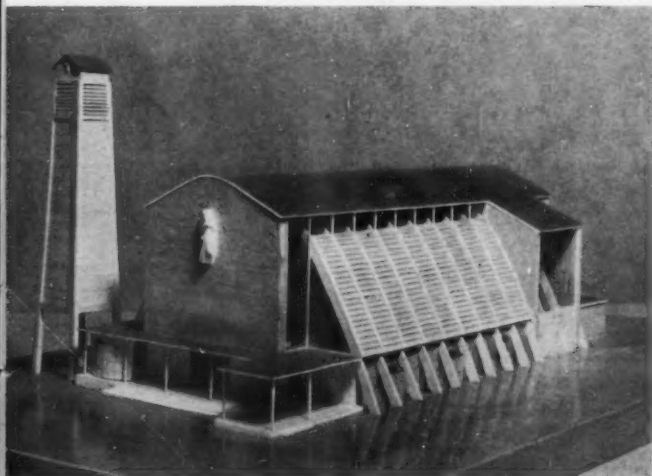


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Architects: David Stokes and Partners  
Model by: Hugh Krall



The Central Railway Station is almost the only pleasant building in the place with its well-arranged porch, concourse and terminal platforms. Last week I wrote of don't care time-keeping on B.R. On my journey home, we were waiting in a station when I heard an inspector say to some porters loading a van: 'Come on, come on, you'll have to do better than that!' But even this encouragement did not prevent our being 20 minutes late at Euston.

#### FORSETH SAGA

The name of Einar Forseth is probably less well-known in this country than are his mosaics in the golden hall of Stockholm Town Hall. As one of the greatest living artists in stained glass, his exhibition at the Building Centre provides an admirable opportunity to study his life's work and development for many of the large number of cartoons date back to his early days. Stained glass needs to be seen as itself, and drawings of it can give only a very poor imitation. It is fortunate therefore that Mr. Forseth was able to bring several examples of finished work with him, although some were most unhappily damaged in transit. The exhibit was opened last week by H. E. M. Gunmar Häggeloff, the Swedish Ambassador, and will remain open until 25th May. The Building Centre will be closed, however, on 19th and 21st May for Whitsun, and on Saturday, 26th May, for its annual staff outing.

#### HOMES FOR OLD PEOPLE

Not long ago I wrote about a publication describing the use of sculpture, mosaics and murals in connection with new building in Vienna. I have now received from the same source a similar sized and equally beautifully produced booklet on old people's dwellings in that City. Seven schemes built or building are described with text drawings and coloured black and white photographs. Each scheme forms an integral part of larger housing development so that there is no fear of the old people living apart from the young. Old people should have time to sit about and watch life going on. They like particularly to see children and an old persons' dwelling scheme on its own is liable to be a sad and dreary place. Astragal disapproves of the A.B.S. scheme for this very reason, and I must agree with him. Unfortunately the A.B.S. is not also building houses for impecunious young architects, and is therefore in a somewhat difficult position.

I hear that violent exception to the A.B.S. scheme, or rather its architecture, has been taken by a local worthy, who intends to oppose it tooth and nail. His line being 'if this is the best architects can do, well . . .' I still think it is an admirable scheme and wish the A.B.S. well in any struggle that lies ahead.

To return to the Austrian booklet. The most noticeable features of all the schemes are good verandahs or porches for outside sitting and excellent planting and arrangement of garden seats. The accommodation is neat and well arranged.

The City of Vienna is much to be congratulated on

*Proposed Church of St. Aidan,  
Leicester*  
Architect: Basil Spence, A.R.A.  
Drawn by: Basil Spence.



the contribution it is making to the arts and architecture not only by the work it is doing, but by the publication of these books.

### BURLINGTON ALBERTI

The best things about the P.R.A.'s speech at the Academy dinner was his strong voice and clear enunciation. The jokes were pretty hard going and the aside that he was longing to see what the architectural papers would say about his speech showed clearly that he was as usual being outrageous just for the fun of it.

The old crack about the mistress art becoming a common tart was trotted out and even laughed at.

Sir Albert was put on the spot by Sir Alfred Munnings' disaffection from the banquet and found himself having to defend modern painting; this however did not prevent his taking a kick at one section of the exhibition.

### HURRAH FOR SPRING

This is the odd title of a woodland scene by Mr. R. O. Dunlop in the Royal Academy summer exhibition. It makes an admirable title for this paragraph for the Private View coincided with the first really warm day of the year. It really felt like spring outdoors and this meant that it was rather too warm inside. Conditions were perfect for the lady who, each year, in cartwheel hat and flowing gown sits in the porch of Burlington House to receive her friends. She was there at 12, she was still there at 6.30, but I also saw her in one of the galleries. I saw some extravagantly pretty girls in white of egg bird's nest hats and the famous academy twins in sugar stick striped jerseys buttoned up the back, brown faces and new shoes. As my two visits were at slightly unfashionable hours I missed the cream, but as a result saw the pictures better.

What can one say about the paintings? Good, bad and indifferent as usual. Too many studies of early Victorian architecture, too much khaki and related green yellows. Some excellent portraits notably by Robert Buhler and the usual room full of wonderfully competent water colours and exquisite drawings. These last one always dismisses with the remark, No time for

these now, they need a visit to themselves. The visit is never made. This year there were fewer pictures that I would have liked to possess, but I noticed that one of my choices 'Boy Feeding' showing a mother fussing a baby, by Mr. Richard G. E. Butler, was sold before the day was out. Christopher Ironsides' large and rather sombre 'Fitting at the Old Vic' is well hung in the entrance hall, and shows a character, cigarette in hand, in the costume of a Roman, or is it Greek, warrior with the designer and his assistants putting the finishing touches to it. The whole is seen in a mirror, although the only clue to this is the back of a Bentwood chair, with its reflection, in the bottom left-hand corner. This is a most distinguished piece of painting and although it would hardly fit in my house, being about 8ft high, I would like to own it. Mr. Cosmo Clark has a number of sparkling night scenes of London. I liked particularly the one of Trafalgar Square and the National Gallery. James Fitton has a most striking self portrait and in the same room tucked away in a corner, is a tiny but beautifully painted 'Girl in a Blue Dress' by David Matthews.

I always wonder how the choice of pictures for illustration in the Times is made. Suitability for reproduction no doubt is important and that may account for a somewhat odd selection.

### REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE

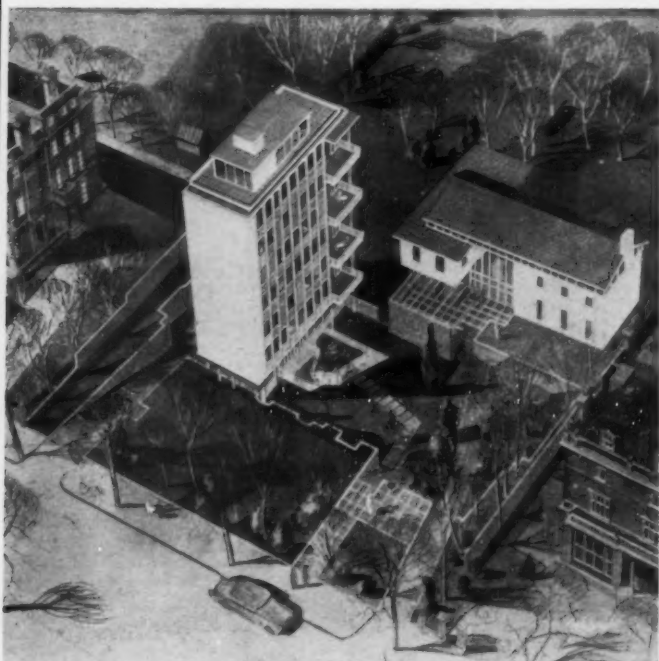
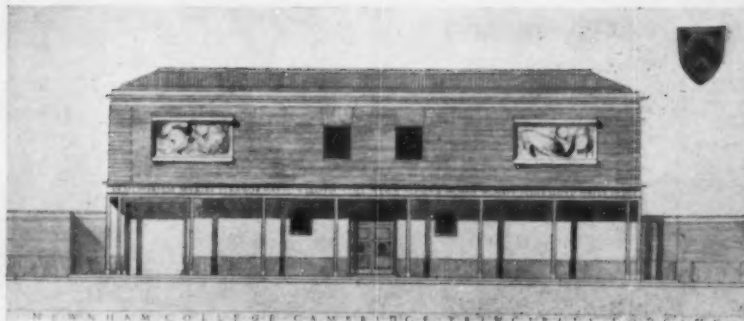
It is hardly surprising that Professor Basil Spence is a difficult man to get hold of, his personal output of work is prodigious. He has six perspectives in the Architecture Room and all his own work. Fine spirited skies whirl behind his handsome buildings which range from two churches in Leicester to an office block in the city, via big schemes for two provincial universities. Here is an A.R.A. who really works for his banquet.

This brings me back to the question which I believe I asked last year. What is the purpose of the Architecture Room? Is it to show off architectural draughtsmanship or the stall of the professional perspectivist? Is it to show what the Academy considers is the best in current British architecture? Or what?

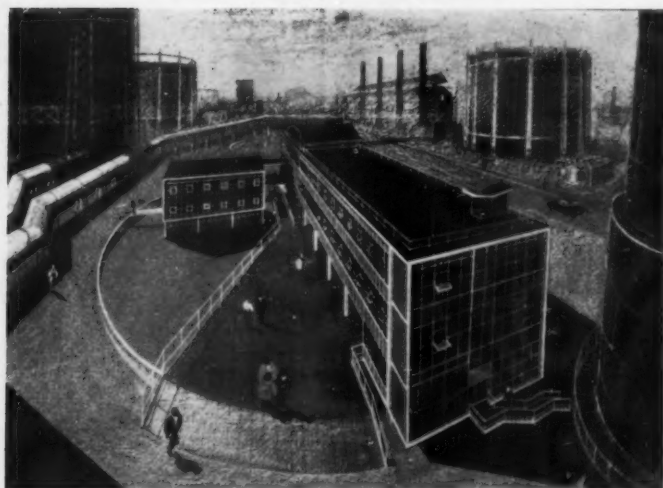
The current collection seems to me to be much as

## ACADEMY ARCHITECTURE

Newnham College, Cambridge,  
Principal's Lodging:  
North Front.  
Drawn by: Louis Osman.  
Architect: Louis Osman.



Residential Development in Kensington Palace Gardens.  
Architects: Guy Morgan & Partners.  
Drawn by: R. Myerscough-Walker.



usual. It is said that the hanging committee had very little to choose from. This is a pity, if true, but it shows that the architectural profession as a whole does not set much store by the opinions of the Academy. What does it come down to? Academicians have a right to be hung. Would-be Academicians do their level best to get hung each year and to do this many rely on the skill of others whether they be perspectivists or model makers. Few of the buildings when built will ever look like their academy portraits, and that makes me ask again, what is the purpose of these shining stormy pictures?

As a forecast of architecture, most of them lie, or at any rate, wilfully mislead. If, as I suspect, they are intended as contributions to the portfolios of future R.A.s would it not be better if they were formal studies in design?

This year the models seem to have got out of hand and although some are new and neat and excellently made, others are dog eared and tatty. A model that was kicked about in an office uncovered for weeks is not fit to be shown at the Academy however good the design is. Again, it is most unfair to exhibitors to crowd models made to widely different scales on the same table. Better by far to select fewer, or alternatively, to make more space available.

To pick out a few works after these general remarks may seem invidious, but how is one to avoid it? The best and most dramatic picture is probably Myerscough Walker's painting, for that is what it is, of Guy Morgan and Partners' development in Kensington Palace Gardens. The most interesting piece of architecture and also one of the best perspectives, is Professor Gordon Brown's North Borneo Government Offices, and I can say this after making due allowance for the exquisite painting of bamboo leaves in the top left-hand corner.

The Professor has other works to show, including a most striking drawing by Lawrence Wright of Hong Kong waterfront development. Eric Cumine's vast

Offices at Beckton Gas Works  
for the North Thames Gas Board.  
Architect: Elie Mayorcas.  
Drawn by: Peter Sainsbury.



## Events and Comments (continued)

nine-pin-like flat scheme also in Hong Kong and also drawn by Lawrence Wright, fills me with wonder and alarm.

Among the most important new London buildings to be seen for the first time is Sir Howard Robertson's South Bank development for Shell-Mex. The skyscraper clearly shows the influence of Perret and Sir Howard's Days on the Quai Voltaire. Seen as an elevational study, it looks a bit harsh and insensitive. This heaviness is not apparent in the model and no doubt is due to allowances made for the vertical perspective—if that is what it is called.

Graham Dowbarn has employed a new perspectivist whose name I seem to have lost, in his view of the new B.B.C. T.V. Building. We shall hear more of him. J. D. M. Harvey's Views of Imperial Collège certainly give a clear indication of its size and the extent of its future window cleaning problem.

I liked very much a small drawing of Braddock & Martin-Smith's Holy Cross Church, Doncaster.

Among the models is a sparkling one of a police building at Clapham by Sidney J. Hanchet, and a very pleasant Catholic Church at Greenford by David Stokes.

The most glaring omission from the exhibition is Holford's St. Paul's Scheme. I do not know whether it was submitted. If it was turned down it is a national scandal. It should have had a central position in Burlington House and might very well have displayed the statue of Margot Fonteyn.

One other perspective needs comment, a cunningly contrived bird's eye view in steep perspective of a scheme for the redevelopment of the Grafton Galleries site by Norman Levarson & Partners. This is no mere eye-catching trick but virtually the only way in which

*Imperial College (City and Guilds College): Department of Mechanical Engineering from the South-East.*

Architect: Graham Dawbarn (Norman & Dawbarn.)  
Drawn by J. D. M. Harvey.

the building on an enclosed site could have been shown.

There was, as usual, a wide selection of delicately drawn — some not so delicately — classical façades, choragic monuments, essays in classical reconstruction and memorial this and that.

Many are worth a passing glance and some are not. Mr. Louis Osman, to whom I am ever grateful for the Epstein in Cavendish Square, is clearly up to something of the same sort at the principal's lodging at Newenham. I hope his luck holds. It would be unkind to say that taken in the round the Architecture Room stinks, although no doubt many who visit it, or fail to visit it, will say that it does. On the other hand for the seeker after truth and new forms of expression it holds no thrills. Dare I say that the general standard, in spite of everything, continues to improve?

ABNER

## Correspondence

### Houses at Windsor

Sir,—My attention has been drawn, as Secretary of the appropriate Committee of this Association, to the mention of "plasterboard containing aluminium foil" used in the ceilings of houses erected in Windsor Great Park, on page 425 of your issue of the 26th April, 1956 (architect—Clifford Culpin, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.).

I am asked to point out that the type of gypsum plasterboard used on these houses was insulating plasterboard, which is plain plasterboard with, on one or both sides, a veneer of aluminium foil. In these houses, the aluminium foil was veneered to one of the surfaces of the plasterboard for purposes of thermal insulation by heat reflection. It is perhaps a misnomer to say that the plasterboard "contains" aluminium foil.

The Plasterboard Industry is very proud of the fact that this relatively new ceiling material, which combines great fire resistance with good thermal insulation, has been used in houses on the royal estate.

Yours faithfully,

G. A. BENDELL  
Secretary,

Gypsum Building Products Association.

London, W.1.

Sir,—Joy! There are still houses being built for human beings, and not for fish, or some kind of insect. They even have rooms, and recognisable staircases and halls. It is a great relief to me to see the admirable planning and sensitive design of the cottages at Ascot and Windsor illustrated in your issue of the 26th April.

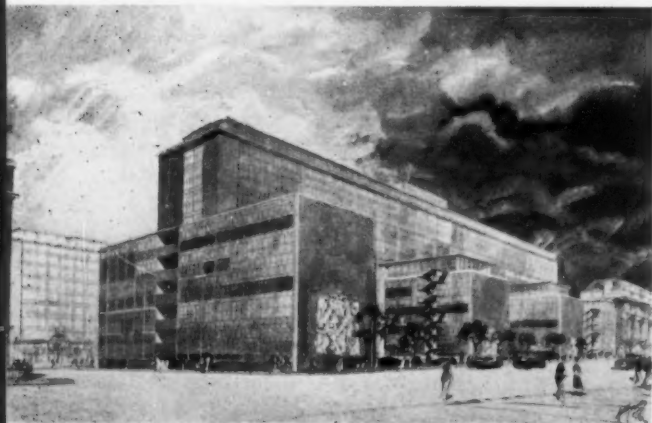
Must we endure further instalments of ephemeral freaks? I begin to hope. Meanwhile hearty congratulations to the experienced Mr. Culpin, to the Royal owners, to the lucky tenants, and to you, sir, for breaking the sequence.

More, please.

Yours thankfully,

EDWIN GUNN,

Delabole Cottage,  
The Ball, Minehead.







Central Government Offices, Jesselton, North Borneo.  
Architect: R. Gordon Brown.  
Drawn by: Gustavo U. da Rosa, Jr.



North Point Housing Scheme, Hong Kong.  
Architect: Eric Cumine.  
Drawn by: Lawrence Wright.

New Waterfront, Hong Kong.  
Architect: R. Gordon Brown.  
Drawn by: Lawrence Wright.



## NEWS

### The New R.I.B.A. President

Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross, M.A., is to be the new President for the session 1956/57. He succeeds Mr. C. H. Aslin, C.B.E., who retires from office on June 30th. Although the Council elections for next session have not yet taken place Mr. Cross's nomination to the presidency is unopposed.

Mr. Cross was born in 1890 and educated at Felstead School and Caius College, Cambridge. He received his architectural training in articles to his father, Alfred W. S. Cross, F.R.I.B.A. and at the Cambridge University School of Architecture, setting up in private practice in 1919 and entering into partnership with his father in 1922.

He has undertaken architectural work for many local authorities; Mr. Cross has also been responsible for other industrial, domestic and collegiate building and is a leading authority on the design and construction of swimming pools. In this connection he has published "Swimming Baths" (1928) and "Modern Public Baths" (1938). His other publications include "Practical Notes for Architectural Draughtsmen" (1927) and contributions to the technical press.

Mr. Cross has served on the R.I.B.A. Council for the Session 1937-38 and since 1950. He was Honorary Secretary of the Royal Institute from 1952-55 and in July 1955 was appointed a Vice-President.

He has also served on a number of committees of the Royal Institute and the Board of Architectural Education.

Mr. Cross was Chairman of the Committee on the Constitution of the Council and also of the Committee on the Registration Acts.

He has acted as arbitrator in Building Disputes and was an assessor for Romford Town Hall; Leeds Central Baths; Holborn Baths architectural competition. Mr. Cross is unmarried. His recreations are walking and gardening.

### Architects' Sign Boards

The Council of the Royal Institute have given approval to the recommendation that members should, wherever possible, make use of a specially designed standardized sign board on all building jobs. They consider that the repetitive value of such boards will provide excellent publicity for the profession and indicate to the public the large number and variety of jobs on which members are engaged.

After considerable research it has been agreed that the most satisfactory board for this purpose is one measuring 20in x 32in made of plastic liner 3/16in thick with a stoved enamel finish and eyeletted for easy fixing.

The top half of the board will carry the R.I.B.A. Badge and the word architect or architects in grey on a white background while the lower half will carry the name of the architect or firm and the address in white lettering on a dark green background. Sufficient space has been provided on the lower half for affixes after the name and for the address. Although the illustration shows the name of a firm and an address which occupies only two lines a total of three lines can easily be accommodated by a slight adjustment of the layout.

The boards can be obtained from The Lettering Centre, 61-63 Borough Road, London, S.E.1. who will undertake to do a layout of the name and address for each architect ordering a board and will signwrite the name and address as agreed in standardized lettering. The charge for this, including package and despatch will be as follows: Single board £6 3s.; Four boards, £5 1s. per board; Eight boards, £4 13s. per board; Twelve boards, £4 6s. per board. There would be a small additional charge where the name and address occupies three lines instead of the normal two.

The boards are intended for use independently on smaller projects and in conjunction with composite boards embodying general and sub-contractors names on larger projects. In the latter case Members are advised to collaborate with the general Contractor, and where necessary the client, and to design a composite board embodying the R.I.B.A. Board in a suitable and dignified position.

A prototype of the board can be inspected at the R.I.B.A. on application.

## In Parliament

### Private Enterprise Building

Mr. Gibson asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government what was the number of houses built by private enterprise builders during the months of January to March 1955; and what was the number for the same months in 1956.

Mr. Sandys stated that during the first three months of this year 25,450 houses were built by private enterprise in England and Wales. That was about 4,000 more than in the corresponding period of last year. (May 1.)

He said in another reply that so far



Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross, M.A., the new P.R.I.B.A. for the 1956/57 Session

he had received no information to show that local authorities in areas where there was an acute shortage were, for financial reasons, cutting their house building programmes. (May 1.)

### Council House Costs

Mr. Proctor asked the Minister what were the capital costs of a three-bedroom council house for the years 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955. Mr. Sandys told him that the average cost of these houses for which tenders were approved in the fourth quarter of each year was £1,310, £1,396, £1,380, £1,383, £1,381 and £1,442. (May 1.)

### Improvement Grants

Mrs. Joyce Butler asked for information, for each year since 1950, of the number of dwellings in respect of which the Minister had undertaken to make a contribution towards the losses incurred by local authorities in conversion or improvement of existing dwellings or other buildings; and what had been the cost of these contributions; and also what had been the number of dwellings in respect of which he had undertaken to make a contribution towards improvement

grants made by local authorities and what has been the cost of these contributions.

Mr. Sandys supplied the following details—

Exchequer contribution towards losses incurred by local authorities		
Period	Dwellings	payments made
1	2	3
		£
31.7.49—31.3.51	266	Nil
1.4.51—31.3.52	491	1,178
1.4.52—31.3.53	680	5,060
1.4.53—31.3.54	489	9,836
1.4.54—31.3.55	1,123	15,256
1.4.55—31.3.56	1,891	32,929

Exchequer contribution towards grants made by local authorities		
Period	Dwellings	payments made
1	2	3
		£
Up to 31.3.51	479	179
1.4.51—31.3.52	932	1,118
1.4.52—31.3.53	1,316	7,562
1.4.53—31.3.54	2,812	20,019
1.4.54—31.3.55	18,163	40,383
1.4.55—31.3.56	35,636	175,045

Note: In each table the figures in column (2) are the number of dwellings for which grant was approved during the period shown in column (1). The figures in column (3) are the Exchequer payments made in that financial year. They include payments in respect of grants approved in earlier financial years. (May 1.)

### Leeds Achievement

Mr. Kaberry sought information about the number of houses authorised to be built by the Leeds Corporation; the number actually completed for each of the financial years ended 31st March 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1956. He was given the following figures—

	Allocation	Starts	Completions
1950	1,120	1,020	1,215
1951	1,645	1,117	833
1952	—	1,684	1,056
1953	—	2,384	2,442
1954	2,846	2,136	2,575
1955	2,500	1,972	1,659

The allocations for 1950 and 1951 included houses to be built privately on licence. In 1952 and 1953 no limit was placed on the number of houses to be built by the corporation. Completions cannot be directly related to allocations. Houses in the allocation for one year normally fail to be completed in the following year, though there will be exceptions, e.g. blocks of flats which take more than a year to build. On the other hand, the number of houses started in a year is fairly closely related to the allocation for that year. (May 1.)

### Module Experiments

Sir Alfred Bossom asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works why the Building Research Station was attempting to discourage the adoption of any module, and his intending to design the United Kingdom test buildings in the European



# ARCHITECTS

Architects'  
sign board

ICTINUS AND CALLICRATES  
66 PORTLAND PLACE LONDON W. 1

Productivity Agency programme without a module, in spite of their agreement with the other European Productivity Agency countries of August last. Mr. Bevins said he was informed that the Building Research Station was not attempting to discourage the adoption of any module, but was reserving its own decision until the experimental work now in progress was complete. In designing the buildings referred to, the Building Research Station was applying the knowledge of the use of modules and co-ordinated dimensions, without confining itself to the use of any particular module. This was not precluded by the proposed agreement with other European Productivity Agency Countries. (May 4.)

### Homes For The Elderly

Mr. Sandys announced that he had decided to inquire into the arrangements being made for housing elderly persons. His object was to see whether they were receiving a reasonable share of the accommodation provided, and whether it was suited to their physical needs and financial circumstances. He proposed asking all local authorities and some voluntary organisations to send him particulars of what they had done; and an official of the Ministry would

inspect schemes in different parts of the country and report to him. He also intended to seek the advice of the Central Housing Advisory Committee (May 1.)

Mr. Enoch Powell, the Parliamentary Secretary, told Mr. Gibson that in 1955 there were 15,959 one-room dwellings built, and that in the first quarter of 1956 the number was 3,573. (May 1.)

### Provision for Cars

Mr. Enoch Powell told Mr. Langford-Holt that provision for parking 52 cars would be made in the new office block being built on the south side of Wigmore Street. Mr. Langford-Holt renewed his contention that in London and elsewhere similar office blocks were being erected with either no car parking accommodation or a lamentably small amount. What was the Ministry doing to see that such accommodation was increased?

Mr. Powell told him that all these factors were taken into account by the local planning authority on each occasion when it received an application for planning permission, and the matter was not one in which the Minister could properly interfere with the discretion of the local authority. (May 1.)

## COMING EVENTS

### The Housing Centre Trust

May 15 at 6 p.m. "The Plan for Baghdad—Capital of Iraq", by P. W. MacFarlane, F.R.I.C.S., M.T.P.I. at 13 Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1.

### Royal Institute of British Architects

May 15 at 6 p.m. "Architecture and the Local Community", by Henry Morris, C.B.E., M.A.(Oxon), M.A., at 66 Portland Place, W.1.

### Institute of Landscape Architects

May 17 at 6.15 p.m. "Landscape in the Coming World", by the Earl of Verulam, At the Housing Centre, 13 Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1.

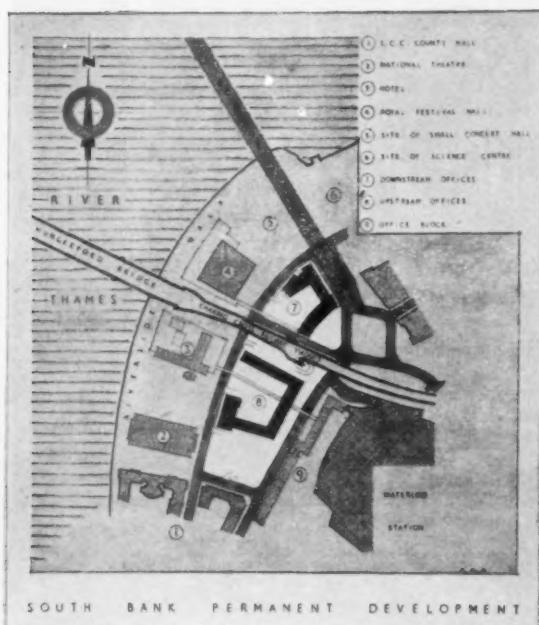
### The Architectural Association

May 16 at 8 p.m. Musical Evening by the A.A. Music Society. Admission by ticket for which there is no charge. The programme will include works by Telemann, Mozart, Schumann and Brahms and a group of piano pieces by modern composers. In the Members' Rooms.

May 17 at 6.15 p.m. Informal Illustrated Talk. "The Mosaics of Ravenna", by E. A. Remnant, at 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1. Tickets not required.

## 26-Storey Shell Office

### Building for South Bank



On view at the Summer Exhibition of the Royal Academy is a 1/16" model of the new main offices in London of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of oil companies. The new offices are to be built on part of the site of the 1951 Festival of Britain.

Designed by Sir Howard Robertson, A.R.A., they will comprise two blocks on either side of Charing Cross Railway Viaduct, one upstream and the other downstream.

Included in the office complex are the provision of a spacious open square facing the site of the National Theatre.



**NEW OFFICE BUILDING FOR SIR LINDSAY**

[A]rchitects: MOIR &amp; WOOD



Lambeth Road front



# **PARKINSON & Co. Ltd.,**

## **St. George's Circus, S.E.1**

Quantity Surveyor:

**S. PARKINSON**

Structural Engineering Consultants:

**MALCOLM GLOVER & PARTNERS**

Consultant for Services:

*Electrical and Mechanical:*

**J. STINTON JONES & PARTNERS**

**T**HE triangular shape site is just off St. George's Circus and the new office building was erected after the demolition of the badly bomb-damaged church hall of the R.C. diocese of Southwark — a structure erected during Victorian times. On one side of the site is a school and on the other is the headquarters of the National Union of Mineworkers. L.C.C. regulations laid down that the central block of the new building could be no higher than three stories so as to provide reasonable light angles and free air to the existing structures.

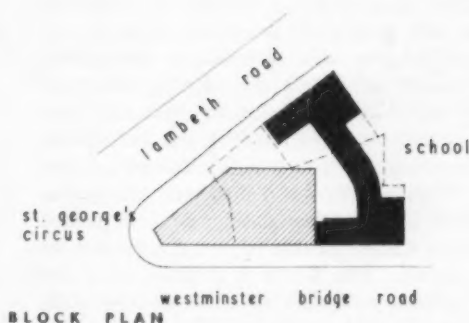
The architects therefore decided to build three main units, a central three storey link block connecting two similar six storied blocks on either street fronts. To have gone any higher than six storeys when the height of the connecting link was definitely laid down, would have made the two tall blocks unmanageable from an administrative and functional aspect. The flat roof of the lower section can be used, in fine weather, as a walk-way between each of the outer blocks.

### **Design**

The whole building has been designed on a modular grid and can be described as an outer shell which contains a completely flexible layout of glazed steel, office partitions. Columns are laid out on a 7ft 1in grid and hollow pot, 10in structural floors span between outer walls. A 2in top screed makes up a total floor depth of 12in, and the ceilings throughout being flush, partitions can be positioned, wherever desired, following on the grid dimension. Spanning between each concrete column, inside the offices, is a purpose made steel plate and between this plate and an exterior concrete skin, is a duct which carries heating element, power, internal and G.P.O. telephones and electric



*Roof Garden over link.*



*Court and parking area.*



## Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co., Offices

cables for lighting. All outlets for each of these services are duplicated on every grid line and running the whole length of the wall is a pressed steel skirting which provides an inter-connecting duct for all cables. Services are accessible for cleaning and maintenance by a piano-hinged panel in the steel plate.

Ceiling lighting points also follow the grid line and run the length of each block in three rows. This allows an office layout which can either be one large room contained by the outside walls, two sets of offices on either side of the central corridor, or the combination of both.

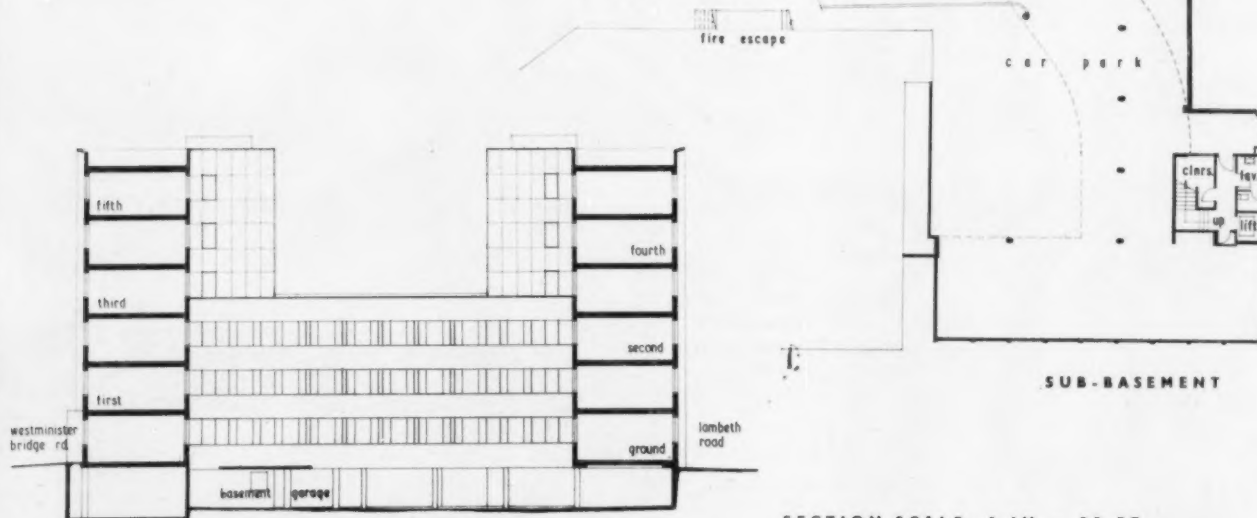
### Construction

The building is constructed entirely of reinforced concrete the only brickwork being the lining to the chimney flue. Building was commenced immediately the site was bought and at that time, although structural steel was in short supply, reinforcing steel was relatively easily obtainable. This more or less dictated the type of construction. The already mentioned concrete skin on the exterior walls is 4in thick and facing this, externally, is a 2in cladding slab faced with Genoa green and white Carara marble of No. 5 aggregate set in a black matrix. The whole is polished to a fine finish. For greater insulation all these exterior walls are lined internally, with woodwool. The woodwool on the one side and the facing slab on the other forms permanent shuttering for the concrete.

The heavily reinforced, 18in ground floor slab carries upper columns and is in turn supported by a widely spaced row of columns with mushroom caps at basement level. This column layout is the minimum that

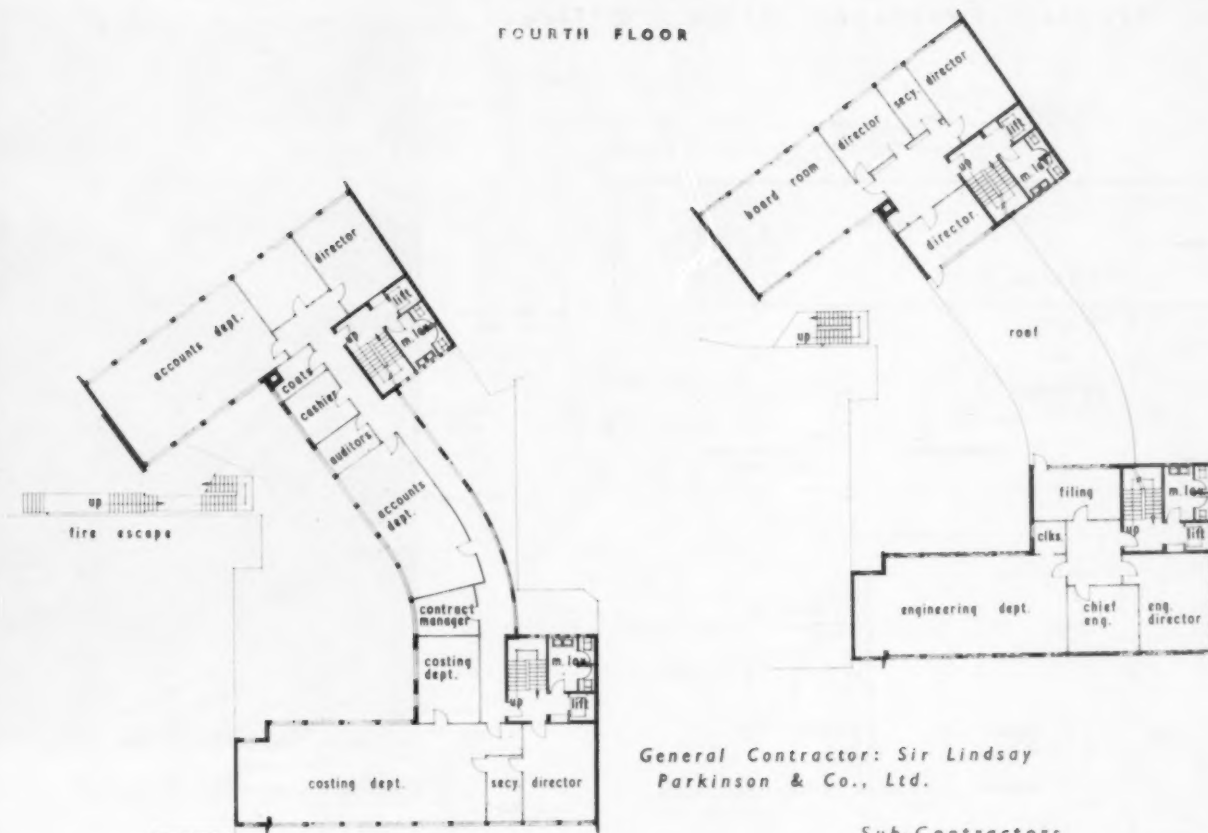


Lambeth Road front



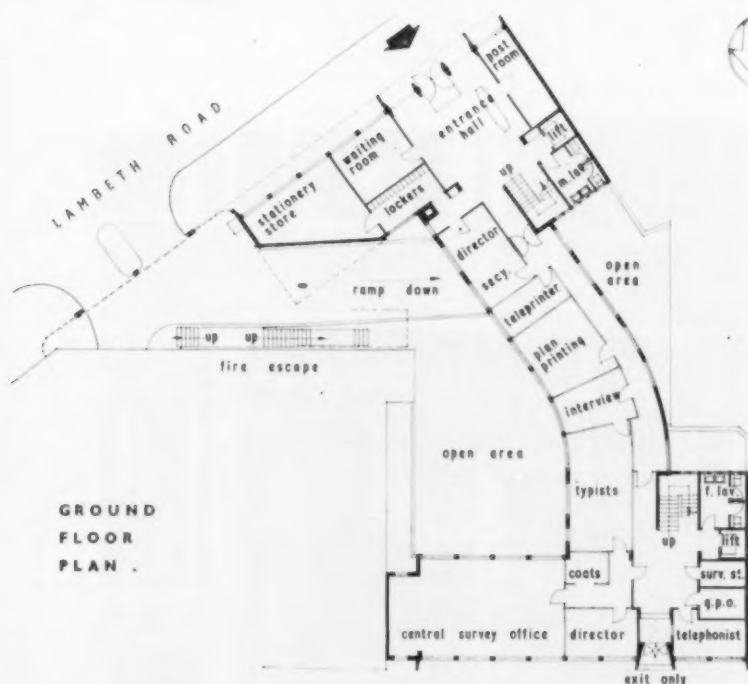
SECTION SCALE: 1 IN = 32 FT

## FOURTH FLOOR



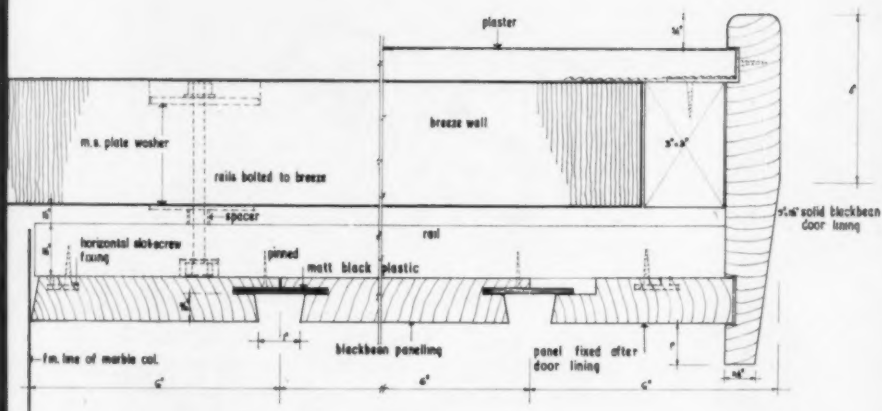
General Contractor: Sir Lindsay  
Parkinson & Co., Ltd.

## FIRST FLOOR

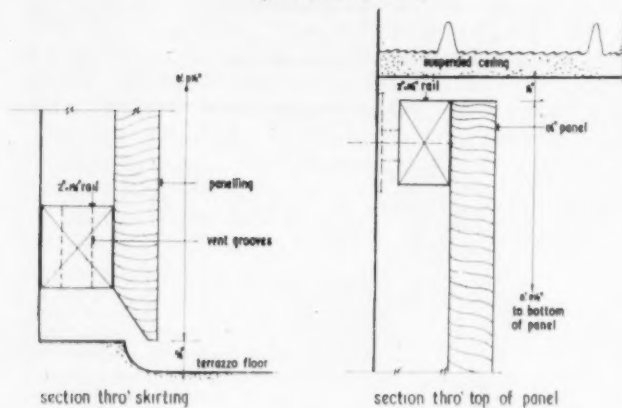
GROUND  
FLOOR  
PLAN

## Sub-Contractors

Acoustic Tiling: Walter Lilly & Co. Ltd. Armour Plate & Armour Cast Doors: Faulkner Greene & Co. Ltd. Asphalt Roof & Basement: Excel Asphalt Co. Ltd. Board Room Chairs: Portman Upholstering Co. Board Room Lights: P. W. Allen & Co. Board Room Table: Mines & West Ltd. Carpets: Climpson & Co. Ltd. Cast Iron Drainage: Lakars (Sanitary & Heating) Ltd. Cill & Wall Tiling: Parkinson (Wall Tiling) Ltd. Cold Cathode Lighting: L. Bloom & Co. Crestaline Flooring: Haskel Robertson & Co. Ltd. Curtains: Raybeck Manufacturing & Co. Ltd. Fibrous Plastering: Tomei & Son Ltd. Fire Escape, Balustrading, Guard Rail: S. W. Farmer & Son Ltd., Gates & Railings: Potter Rax Ltd. Glazing & Black Vitrolite Facings: Aygee Ltd. Internal Partitions: Chatwood (Safe & Engineering) Co. Ltd. Ironmongery: Charles Constantine Ltd. Joinery Suppliers: Rothervale Trading Co. Ltd. Light Shields: Arden & Co. Marble Linings and Surround: Odling, Anselm & Sons Ltd. Mechanical Electrical & Plumbing: Matthew Hall & Co. Ltd. Metal Windows & Venetian Blinds: Crittalls Manufacturing Co. Ltd. Painters & Decorators: Decorative Specialists Ltd. Panelling Board Room & Main Entrance: The Universal Shop Fitting Co. Ltd. Passenger Lifts: Hammond & Champness Ltd. Pavement Lights: J. A. King & Co. Ltd. Plastering & Pavior: Pollock Bros. (London) Ltd. Progress Photographs: Philip Kendall. Roller Grille—Main Entrance: Arthur L. Gibson & Co. Ltd. Sanitary Goods Suppliers: John Bolding & Sons Ltd. Terrazzo, Claddings & Finishes: Malacarp Terrazzo Co. Veneer Panelling Suppliers: Wm. Mallinson & Co.

**Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co., Offices**

typical panel jointing



section thro' skirting

section thro' top of panel

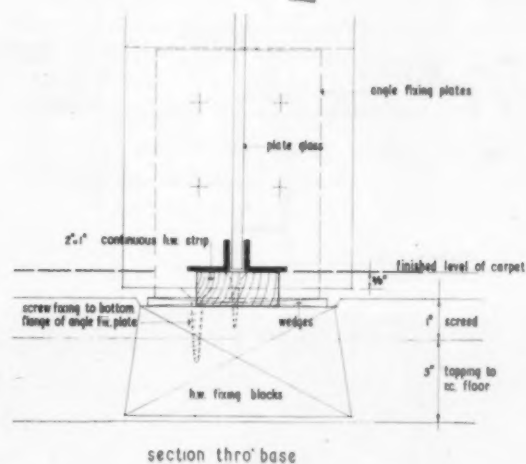
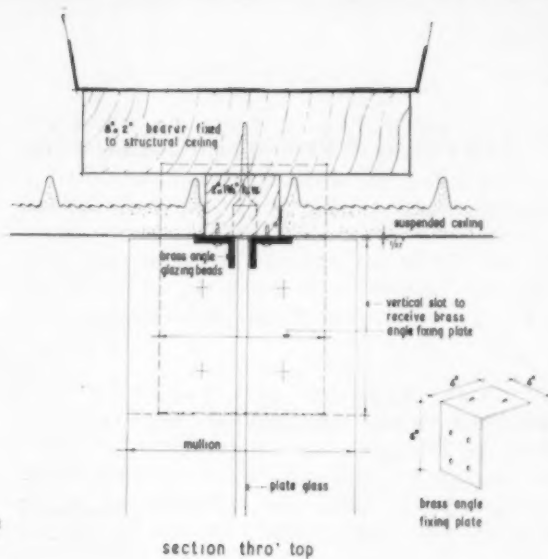
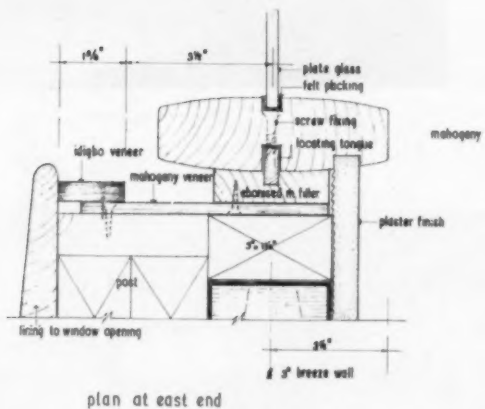
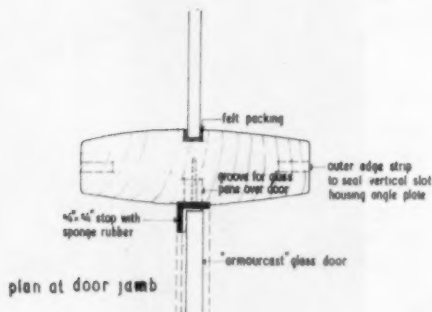
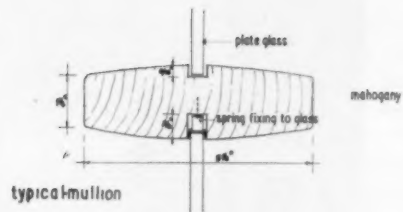
**ENTRANCE  
HALL  
PANELLING**

Enquiries counter in the entrance hall

The entrance to Lambeth Road. Columns faced with green marble

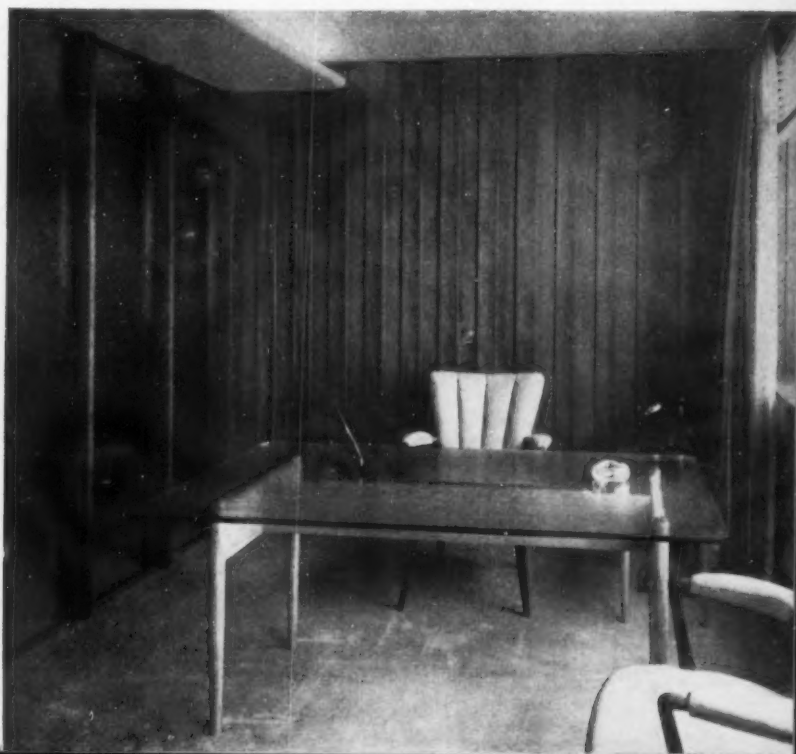






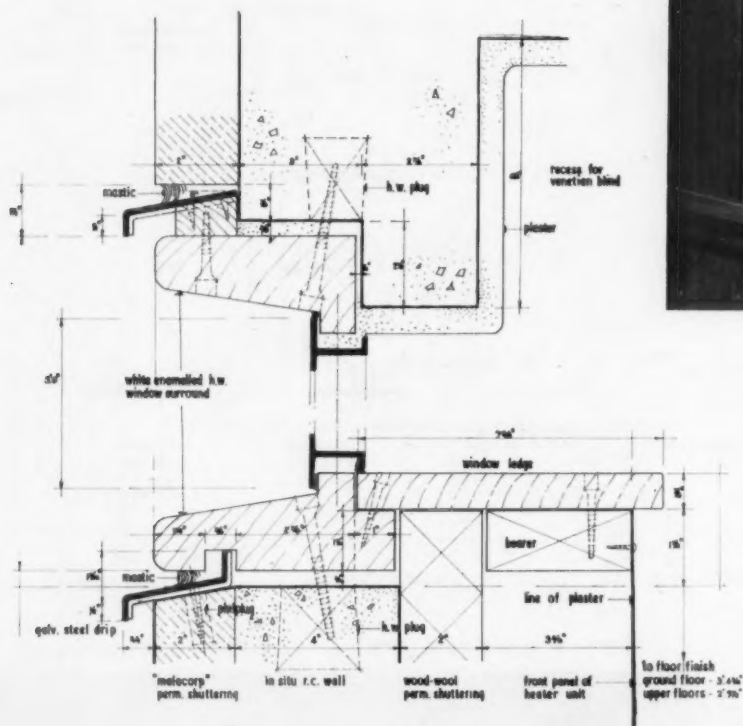
# DIRECTOR'S ROOM DETAIL: 1 F.S.

A Director's room. The desk top is rolled glass, as is the left hand screen. Panelling is West African mahogany.

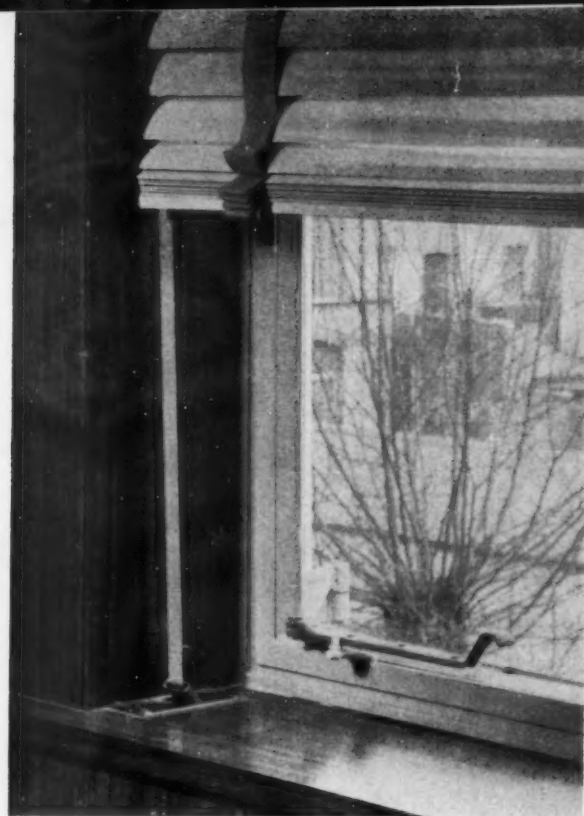
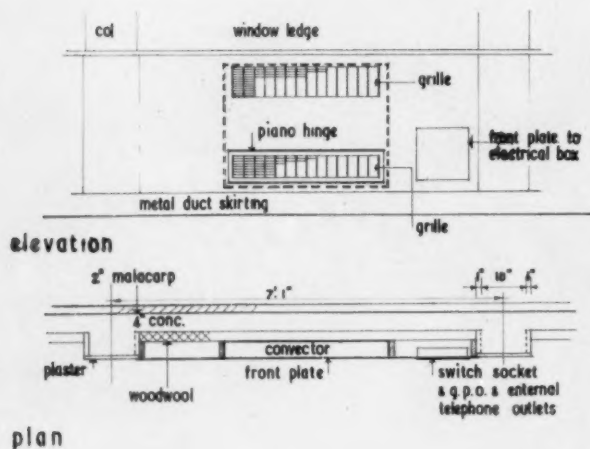


# Sir Lindsay Parkinson Building

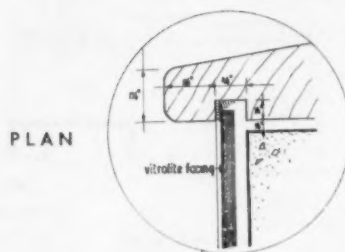
SECTIONAL DETAILS OF STREET  
WINDOWS AND FACING MATERIALS  
SCALE:  $\frac{1}{2}$  F.S.



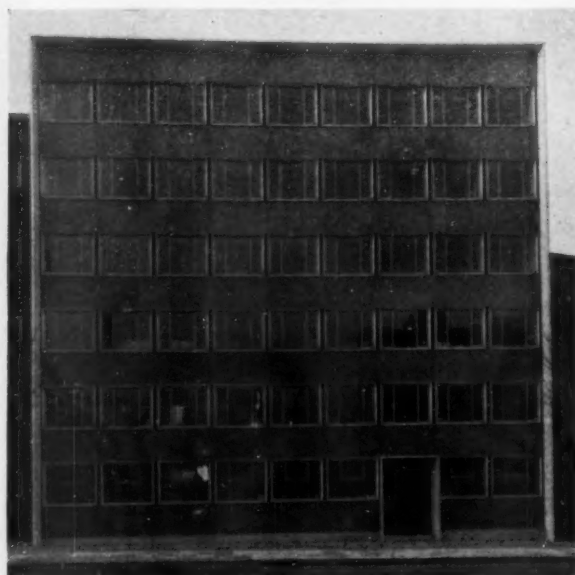
DETAIL OF INTERNAL PANEL



Patent venetian blind



North elevation



was structurally possible as the basement is also used as a parking garage. In this relatively small area there is space for 26 cars. Running down from Lambeth Road side is a concrete ramp to this basement and drivers of cars have direct access into the main building by either one of the staircases or lifts, of which there are two sets running down to basement level. Lift motor rooms are in the sub-basement.

Built on to the exterior wall of the Mine Workers' building adjoining is a steel fire escape which serves both properties.

#### Finishes

To reduce the apparent width of the closely spaced exterior columns, each window is framed by a timber surround which laps over the concrete and "Vitrolite" facing panels. The wood is white painted so instead of a column width reading its full 10in or 12in on the external elevations all that is seen between the windows is a 6in strip of black "Vitrolite".

There are interesting approaches to detail in the building which in view of the fact that construction commenced without any working drawings being ready, are noteworthy of attention. Most of the furniture was designed by the architect and veneers and curtainings

(the Boardroom curtains are by Elizabeth Eaton) give life to a somewhat stereotyped interior.

On the flanks of the tall blocks the 5in concrete walls are bush hammered and painted with a "Semprova" coating that it is considered will weather with time down to a more attractive light grey colour. These walls are broken up into panels by a 1in deep (from outer face) expansion joint filled with bitumen.

#### Fittings

A new venetian blind has been used on the windows which face south and this has a strap, in lieu of the normal cord, that controls the raising, lowering and tilting of the louvres in one action. This strap runs between cill and soffit and operates on a concealed spring loaded drum.

Another detail are the separate taps for drinking water in the wash rooms in addition to normal basin taps. The staff of the Company has some 5 men in employ to every 2 women and in the allotting of lavatories these figures had to be considered.

The final cost of the building, including fittings and furniture was £125,000.

#### The board room



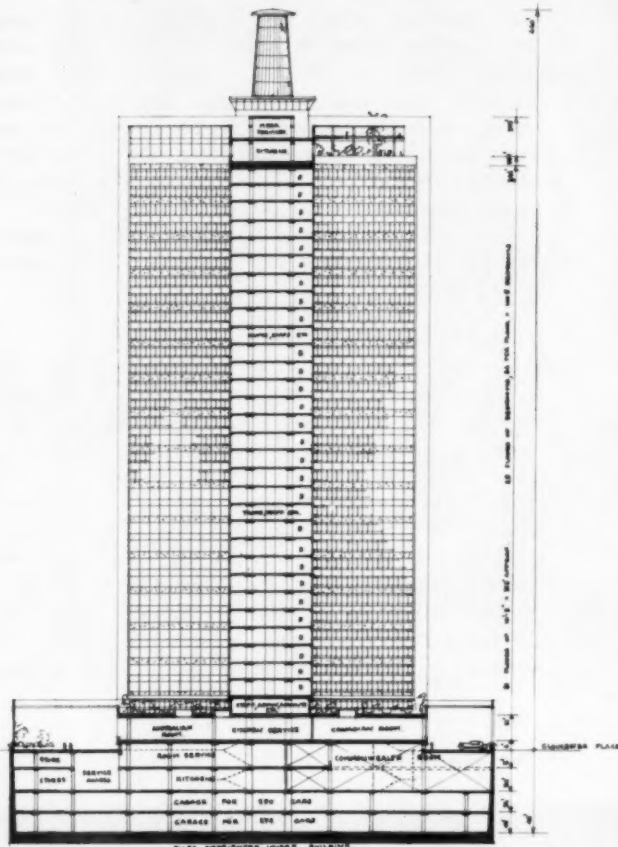
## PROPOSED POINT BLOCK HOTEL, PORTMAN SQUARE, W.1

In view of the interest aroused over proposals for building upwards in London, we publish this week a proposal for a hotel in the West End. The scheme, for which outline planning approval has been requested was considered at a meeting of the Town Planning Committee of the L.C.C. on Tuesday.

★ ★ ★

**H**ERE is a bold scheme which would help to solve the 5,000 tourist bedroom shortage in London. The building is 34 storeys high, rising 375 feet, and would occupy a  $2\frac{1}{4}$  acres site north of Portman Square.

The owners of the site are the Cantor Hotel Operating Company of New York.



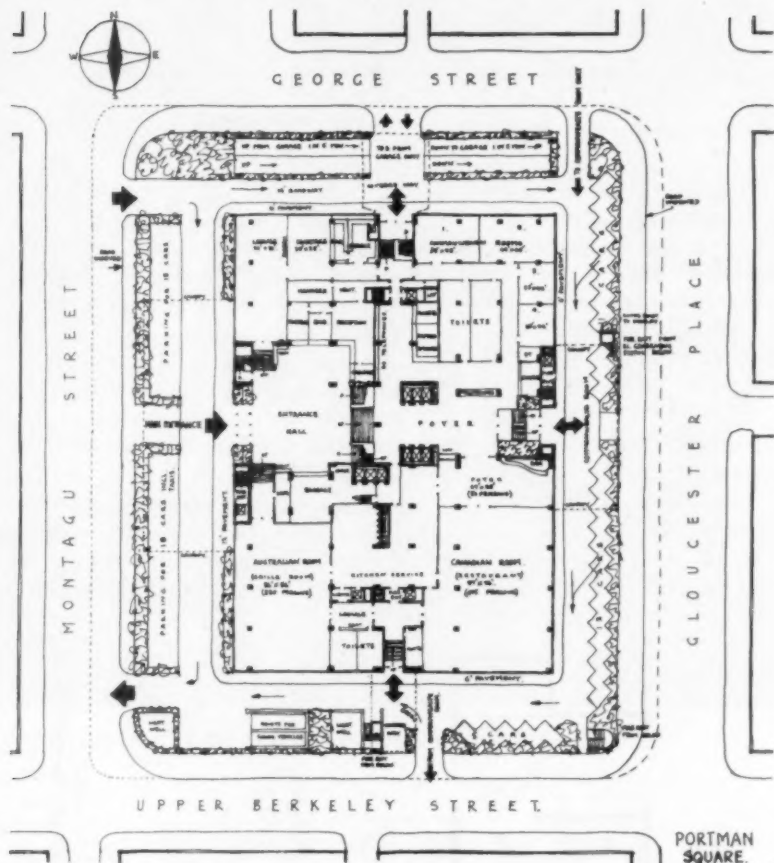
CROSS SECTION



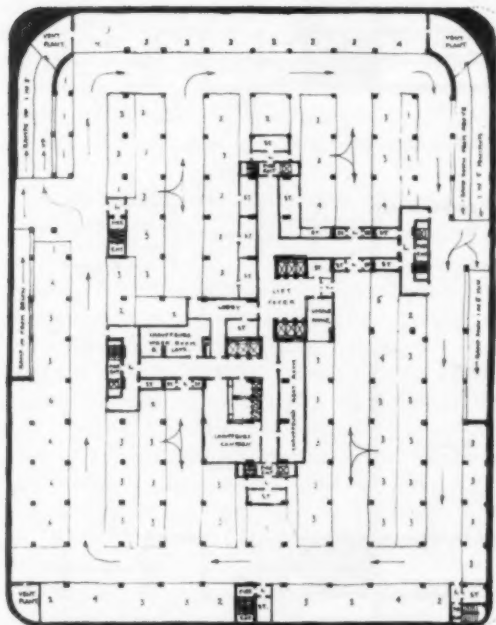
PERSPECTIVE

architects:  
LEO O. L. HANNEN  
JOHN H. MARKHAM  
consulting architect:  
ALEX. F. WATSON

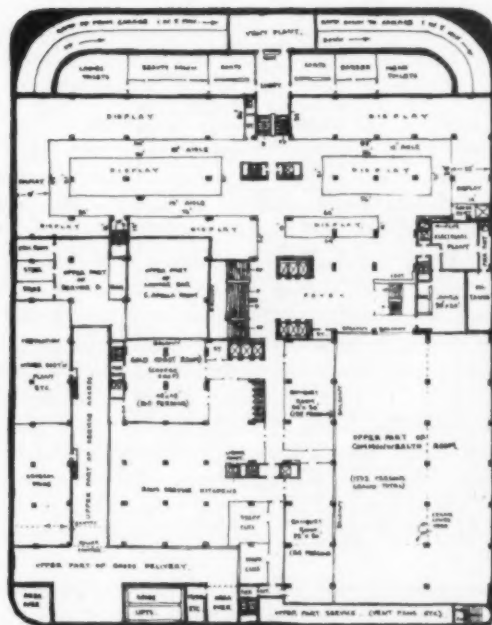




GROUND FLOOR PLAN



A PARKING BASEMENT



LOWER GROUND FLOOR

### Planning

The preliminary scheme, which has been deposited with the L.C.C., contains four sub-ground basements which occupy the whole site area, a set-back ground floor, and 28 floors of bedrooms—36 rooms per floor—rising in a high, central point block.

Two lower basements will be used as garages for 580 cars and upper sub-basements are kitchens, banqueting halls, and ballrooms.

On the lower ground-floor is an area for permanent merchandise display, space to be let to manufacturers exhibiting products of interest to overseas-buyers.

### Traffic Circulation

In order to comply with a 3.5 to 1 planning density over the site a small irregular shaped area (shown dotted on the plan, page 502) is all that is left for development up to the height of this building.

It is this form which has logically dictated the high blocks outline.

Outside this restricted area the ground floor covers the larger site area. Circumscribing the ground-

## Proposed Point Block Hotel

floor is an internal road for private-car access.

Main entrance to the hotel is off Montagu Street to west, but each of the other three sides have subsidiary entrances.

Each entrance will be covered by an extensive *porte cochere* extending out to the street front.

Cars drive into the basement garages on ramps from George Street and off Upper Berkeley Street, to south, two heavy-duty lifts will carry the delivery lorry to the kitchen floor level.

Roofs over the ground floor are extended around the central tower block and will contain flower

gardens. In addition, there are flowered-terraces, a pool, and a miniature golf-course.

All visitors' suites are two-bed; and the architects, in conjunction with the clients, have worked a layout which can be altered to either night-time sleeping to day-time living. Floor slabs will probably be hollow pot construction cantilevered of steel stanchions set back within the frame, and are 10 feet 3 inches floor to floor.

Bedroom floors will be subdivided by prefabricated, sound-proofed partition of cupboards and cabinets.

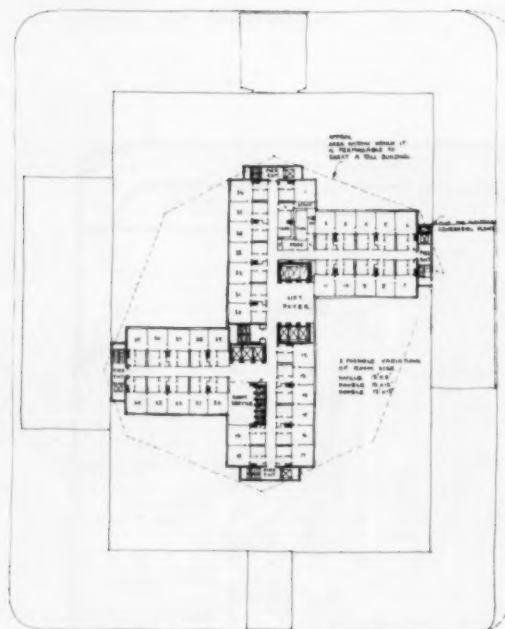
At the end of each bedroom wing

are fire-escapes and lifts which are additional to the central circulation battery. It is provisionally planned to leave the fire escape windows open to the weather.

At the highest level is a restaurant, cocktail bars and viewing terraces, and surrounding the whole structure is an enclosed observation room.

External finishes have, as yet, not been decided upon, but it is likely they will take the form of some prefabricated stainless steel or metal sheet cladding.

It is considered that construction will take two years, and at this stage the cost estimate is £7,500,000.



TYPICAL BEDROOM FLOOR

ROOM DETAIL ▶



DAYTIME LAYOUT.



*The front of the new shop in Charing Cross Road*

## 8 days to build

**T**HE complete gutting of the existing shop and its rebuilding into a busy shoe store that could have, apart from reintroduction of stock, opened its doors to the buying public eight days after closing them for alterations, was an operation requiring considerable ingenuity and organisation. The shop closed to the public after business on Wednesday night, 28th March, and the last workman left on the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

The essence of the scheme was large-scale use of prefabricated units.

### **organisation**

Some 5,000 pairs of shoes are held as sales stock and all these had to be removed before building work commenced. This was the responsibility of the Shoe Company but construction came directly under the architect and his contractors. To successfully carry out such a highly organised and specialised conversion of this sort without seriously disrupting the firm's normal sales routine — the necessity to remain open for every working day of the year—it is only possible to work over three of the annual Bank Holidays; the Easter, Whitsun and August.

As most of the work, apart from installation, was done in the contractor's shop it was uneconomic for this to be more than 20 miles radius from the site because

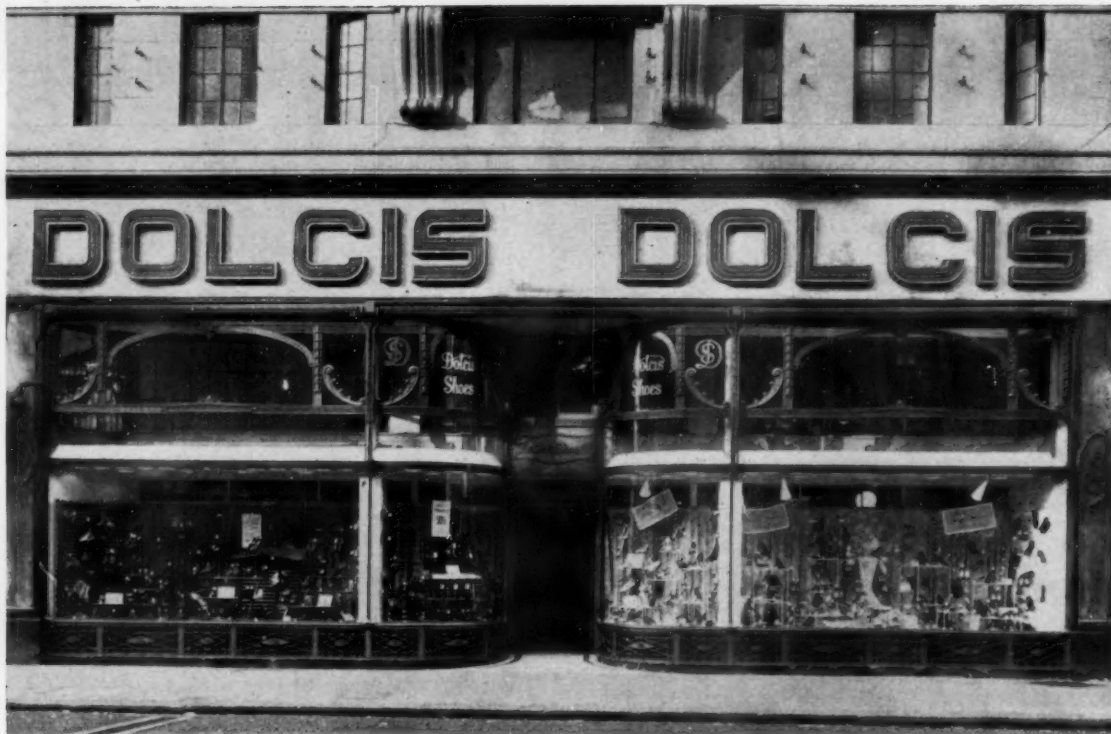
transport problems would be magnified. The nominated contractor was selected for general experience and ability to handle high-pressure work and he in his turn employed skilled fitters who were hand picked from other contracts all over the country. In all, some 85 men were employed at various stages.

### **construction**

The alteration was an exercise of co-operation between artisan, contractor, and architect and success was only possible by adherence to a very tight construction schedule. All fittings (including shopfronts and staircase) were planned as full-size units during setting out on the work-benches at the contractor's plant. Although worked out in broad outline, final detailing was based on drawings which were in reality sketch plans and the units were proved as working entities by pre-site, loose jointing and assembly.

Units which were too large to be fabricated before installation because of transport and handling considerations — the shopfronts and staircase — fell into this category. After their fitting they were dismantled, numbered and delivered to the site in sequence of assembly requirements.

An internal mezzanine that was demolished was replaced by a new timber floor on R.S.J.s and this was the only major structural alteration. By almost total

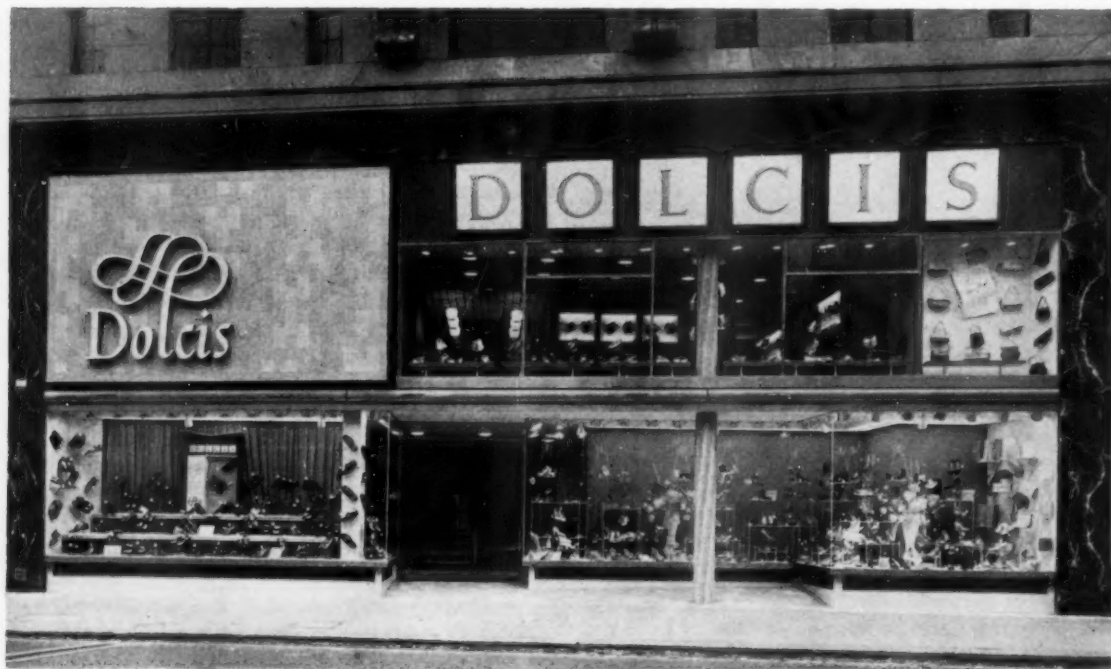


*The old front*

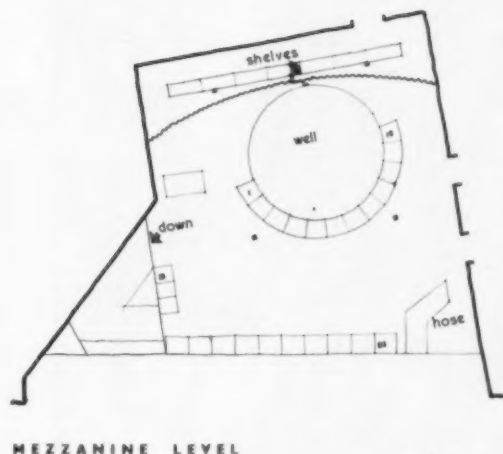
### **8 Days to Build**

*The new look*

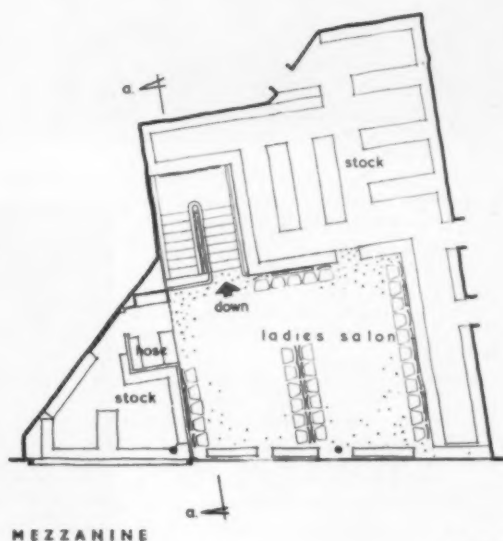
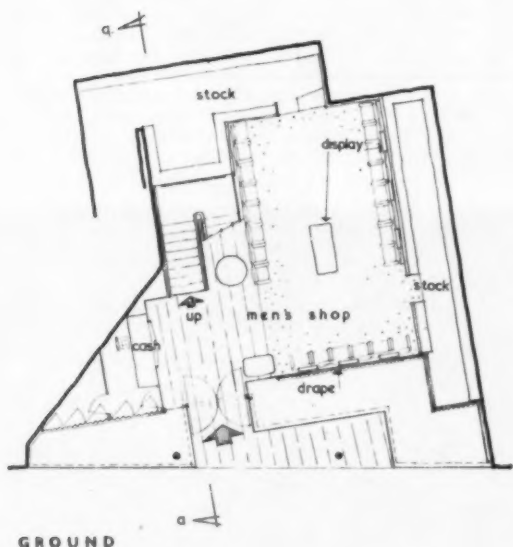
elimination of cast-in-situ work delays were short circuited and the only wet work were the mosaic floor panels at the street entrance and the mosaic facing to internal columns running between the ground floor and mezzanine.







BEFORE



AFTER

### Installation

The light, timber staircase was made up of three pre-assembled sections — the two flight runs and the landing — which upon site delivery were connected by bolting and screwing. Being the largest component, the shopfront was made in three separate units delivered to the site on the back of low-loaders. Apart from glazing the pieces were completed before leaving the workshops, having even light fittings and cables in final position. These shopfronts had to be the last major building units delivered and installed so that reasonably uninterrupted access to the building's interior could be had for as long as possible.

The delivery itself was no mean operation. The shop faces directly on to one of London's busiest streets and the traffic department would not allow haphazard

parking of lorries unloading material. To circumvent this problem most of the equipment and fittings were delivered at night and the sub-contractors used their lorries, which were parked in a side street, as store space and workbenches.

The whole of the shop façade was altered and to do this steel scaffolding projected 4ft out on to the sidewalk. It is interesting to note that one of the main difficulties the contractor had to contend with were inquisitive sightseers and being holiday time the position was even more aggravated.

Internal decoration generally is an exciting colour combination and the overall scheme makes much use of sheets of coloured plastics such as Formica, Lionide and Rydura which eliminated painting except for ceilings.

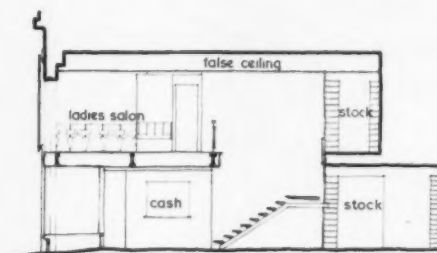


*The marbled stair*

architect: ELLIS E. SOMAKE  
staff architect to Dolcis Ltd.

consulting engineer:  
MALCOLM GLOVER & PARTNERS

technical advisor:  
E. R. BARRETT



SECTION AA

*Upstairs*

Main Contractors:  
Courtney, Pope Ltd.

Subcontractors:

Blinds : Adams Ltd.  
Building Work : A. E. Howlett Ltd.  
Cash System : Lamson Ltd.  
Electrical : Courtney, Pope (Electrical) Ltd.  
Glaziers : James Clark & Eaton, Ltd.  
Heating and Ventilation : Rosser & Russell Ltd.  
Lino and Carpets : F. G. Minter Ltd.  
Marble : J. Whitehead & Sons  
Plastering : Tomei & Sons Ltd.  
Scaffolding : Scaffolding (Gt. Britain) Ltd.  
Sprinklers : Automatic Sprinkler Co. Ltd.  
Vitreous Mosaic : Marriott & Price Ltd.  
Window Gear : Arens Controls Ltd.



*Downstairs*

**8 days to build**



# Information Digest

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

- **British Standard Specifications**, from British Standards House, 2, Park Street, London, W.1. Telephone: Mayfair 9000.
- B.S. 1304 : 1956, Ready to fit thermal insulating materials for hot and cold water supply and central heating installations for small dwellings**, price 3s.

This standard, which is a revision, relates to water heaters rated at not more than 55,000 B.Th.U./hr. Thermal performance is related to a specified minimum thickness of insulating material based on the manufacturers declared value of conductivity. The method of measuring thermal conductivity used by the National Physical Laboratory is described in detail and a list of the relevant Codes of Practice is given. Methods of insulating incorporating the use of granular or flocculent materials within casings built up in situ are outside the scope of this specification. Data on the sizes of cylinders, tanks and cisterns have been brought into line with the revised editions of B.S. 417 and 699, provision has also been made for the supply of insulated jackets for containers of other than standard sizes. A new table has been added giving standard sizes complying with the requirements of B.S. 1565 and 1566. of galvanised mild steel and of copper indirect cylinders. The appendices give the basis upon which minimum thicknesses have been established and they also give recommendations on the successful application of insulating materials and the precautions to be taken to minimise troubles due to frost.

- B.S. 2717 : 1956, Glossary of terms applicable to roof coverings**, price 5s.

This glossary is one of a series connected with the building industry which the Council of Codes of Practice of the B.S.I. has undertaken to prepare. It is intended to provide a definite list of terms for use by architects, surveyors, builders, manufacturers and suppliers. It has been assumed that users will not only wish to ascertain the meaning of an individual term but will expect to find the various terms relating to a particular type of roof covering grouped together. The glossary has therefore been arranged in sections but with a separate alphabetical index to facilitate reference.

- **List of Recommended Domestic Solid Fuel Appliances**, published jointly by the Coal Utilisation Council and the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation. Free.

This list is the second to be issued jointly by the C.U.C. and the S.S.F.F. and it has been prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Fuel and Power. All appliances included comply with prescribed standards of efficiency and the majority of them are capable of burning smokeless fuels. Details of the most suitable types and sizes of fuels are given for each appliance. About six hundred open fires, heating stoves, cookers and boilers are listed.

- **Damp-proof treatments for solid floors**, B.R.S. Digest No. 86, from H.M.S.O. Price 3d.

This digest relates solely to conditions where there is no head of ground water, its purpose is to set down the information that has so far been gained on the subject as a guide to practice. The principles of damp-proofing solid floors are followed by a summary of the properties of damp-proofing materials, a table of the properties of flooring materials in relation to ground moisture, economic considerations and the availability and use of damp-proofing materials. Notes on the hot application of pitch and bitumen and the damp-proof treatments of hot wood floors conclude the Digest.



A transportable counter unit for Lloyds Bank, approximately six foot square, fabricated from Waverit Veneered Board. To be used at conferences and exhibitions.

- **Expanding Towns, an opportunity for industry**, published by the London County Council, County Hall, S.E.1. Telephone: Waterloo 5000. Free.

This brochure has been prepared for the Council's stand at the B.I.F., Olympia (Stand A 93) in order to interest owners and managers of factories in the congested centre of London in the need for and advantages of transferring or extending their operations to the county towns beyond the green belt. The brochure contains six leaflets giving a short description of Thetford, Swindon, Letchworth, Haverhill, Bletchley and Basingstoke. The leaflets include a map showing the environment for about thirty miles round, a list of existing communications and other facilities. Firms interested are invited to apply to the Valuer to the Council.

## BOOKS

- **Developmental design in housing**, by René Eyheralde Frias, translated by César Garcés, from the Scientific Communications Service. Inter-American Housing Centre, Ciudad Universitaria, Bogotá, Colombia.

An interesting report from the Inter-American Housing Centre which is established at Bogotá. The Centre is engaged in research and experimental work in the low-cost housing programmes of the member countries of the Organization of American States. It was established by the Pan American Union. The report is thoroughly illustrated by the method of reproduction, multilith, makes a nonsense of most of the pictures; the line drawings, however, are excellent for their simplicity and clarity. The publication is prefaced with the following definition — Developmental Design: The systematic development of design through research and use of three-dimensional models and mockups.

## Information Digest (continued)

- **Building Site Manual**, edited by E. Drury, B.A., A.R.I.B.A., published by George Newnes Ltd., Tower House, Southampton St., Strand, W.C.2. Price 12s. 6d.

This book is designed to assist all those concerned with building site organization and supervision, particularly Clerks of Works, General foremen and Architects' site assistants. It gives practical advice on site office routine and inspection of work in progress. It also covers preliminaries such as setting out, building lines, site surveys and the measurement of existing buildings. A final section giving technical data, subdivided under trades, is intended as a means of quick reference on the job. An extremely useful pocket-sized book.

- **Alphabets for signwriters, artists and illuminators**, the 21st edition collected and revised by H. Oxborough in collaboration with W. T. Lovegrove, published by the Technical Press Ltd. Price not stated.

This book shows many types of lettering under the following three headings:— alphabets for manuscripts, general purpose alphabets, and miscellaneous alphabets. The examples are well displayed and quite satisfying to look at. In the past ten years there has been a growing realization of the satisfaction that can be got from the ability to write a good hand. This book should be of assistance to those that follow this trend.



The House of Braganza restaurant in Frith Street has been redesigned. Architect: Germano Facetti, A.S.I.A., Lighting by G.E.C.

### PROFESSIONAL AND TRADE ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

- **Plasticisers and air entraining agents for concrete**, a paper presented at the Hall of the Federation of Buildings, Paris, by M. M. Duriez, Chief Engineer for Bridges and Roads in France, translated and abridged from the original French and published by Sika Ltd., 82, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 3693. Free.

A concrete admixture is a product added to concrete for the purpose of improving certain of its desirable qualities and characteristics. It may also be a product which enables mortar or concrete to reach special standards which could not be attained otherwise. It may be a product intended to facilitate the production of a concrete of a desired quality with less effort or with less elaborate plant. This paper deals with, in considerable detail, those admixtures that cover part of the field of concreting, that of plasticisers and air entraining agents.

- **The Journal of the Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society**, 11, King's Bench Walk, London, E.C.4. Price 2s.

This journal describes interpretations of various Acts relating to its title, with test cases and recent actions in the cause. The annual report is included in this issue and it is obvious that this society is kept extremely busy on our behalf.

- **B.I.F. Bulletin, Vol. 1, No. 2**, published by British Industries Fair Ltd., Ingersoll House, 9, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Telephone: Covent Garden 1461. Free.

Since this issue was prepared has come the decision to close the London B.I.F. and with it the suspension of publication of this bulletin. The Birmingham section continues, however, and it seems appropriate that this interesting and newsy summary of the exhibition should be continued by the Northern organisers.

- **Zinc in the European Hardware Industry, European Zinc Bulletin No. 2, (New series)**, from the Zinc Development Association, 34, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. Telephone: Grosvenor 6636. Free.

This bulletin shows the use of Zinc alloy pressure die castings as hardware articles, an application that has now assumed large proportions both in Europe and in the U.S.A. The illustrations are particularly interesting, they are grouped nationally and show a difference of visual design which is very significant. An interesting type of hinge is shown on the Italian page and on the Swiss, which also shows a new timber connector.

- **Welded details for single-storey portal frames**, published by the British Constructional Steelwork Association, 94/98, Petty France, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Abbey 1653. Price 2s. 6d.

The object of this publication is to give guidance on constructional details for welding single-storey portal frames under nominally static loading conditions and having rocker type or fixed type bases. It deals with knee joints, apex joints, valley joints, rafter site joints and bases. Typical examples of these details with explanatory text are presented so that a detail can readily be chosen and adapted to suit the particular case being considered. The publication does not deal with the calculation of stresses in the details shown but references to sources of information on this subject are given in a bibliography. The details shown are based on the provisions of B.S. 449: 1948, and B.S. 1856: 1952.

The stand of Dimplex Ltd. at the last London B.I.F. at Olympia.





## Information Digest (continued)

## TRADE PUBLICATIONS

- **Sylglas**, by Winn & Coales Ltd., Denso House, Chapel Road, London, S.E.27. Telephone: Gipsy Hill 4247. Free.

Two leaflets describing a glazing and sealing tape and a cord, both additions by the manufacturing of the Denso range of anti-corrosion products. The tape is used for glazing and waterproofing, a particular application is between the overlapping parts of corrugated roofing; glazing and the repair of existing defective glazing are other apparent uses. Paint may be applied over this material. The tape is sold in 30ft rolls and the cord in 75ft coils.

- **Stramit as permanent shuttering**, from Stramit Boards Ltd., Packet Boat Dock, Cowley Peachey, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Telephone: West Drayton 3021. Free.

This new information sheet (IV: 5) deals with the use of these slabs as permanent shuttering for in situ concrete. Among the many advantages the sheet sets out to show is that thermal insulation, reduction in the transmission of sound, protection of the concrete from fire, and the provision of a permanent finish, are all provided in one application. This material has been used in several school buildings in North Wales.

- **Current Price list**, from the Hammill Brick Co. Ltd., of Eastry, Sandwich, Kent. Telephone: Eastry 231. Free.

This price list, which supersedes all previous lists, deals with all their "H.B." sandfaced, specials, copings and one inch facing tiles.

- **Price lists**, from C. F. Anderson & Son Ltd., 13, Essex Road, Islington, N.1. Telephone: Canonbury 6671. Free.

Two new price lists covering planed imported softwood and sawn imported softwood. Separate lists are issued covering plywood and blockboard, hardwoods, doors and mouldings.

- **Staylorol**, from New System Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Imperial Dye Works, Cairns Road, London, S.W.11. Telephone: Battersea 6668. Free.

This new material has been evolved as a clear sealer for non-penetrating materials with good sealing properties on porous materials such as plaster, masonry, concrete, fibrous cement, wood, etc. It is a Copolymer emulsion based on Styrene and Butadiene and coatings based upon it should show a very high adhesion even if they are subjected to prolonged humidity.

- **Price list and Guide**, from E. N. Mason & Sons Ltd., Arclight Works, Colchester, Essex. Telephone: Colchester 5191. Free.

The latest edition of the Criterion Materials Guide and Price list includes the revised prices for Criterion Documentary Papers. Full information is given of a wide range of Industrial Photographic materials available for all types of reproduction work, whether projection, contact or direct positive.

- **The Empress of Britain Murals**, from Bakelite Ltd., 12-18, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Sloane 0898. Free.

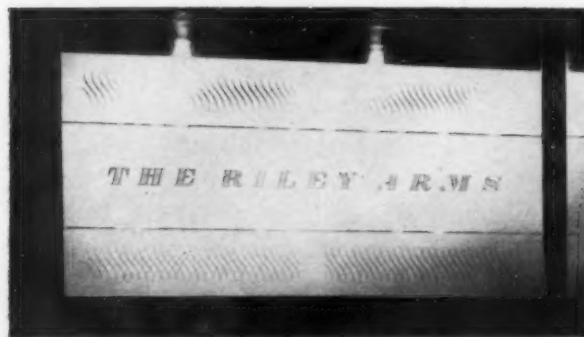
A well illustrated booklet describing the Waverite murals installed in the new 26,000 ton Canadian Pacific liner, "Empress of Britain". Many of the murals are reproduced in full colour and the booklet describes fully the method of manufacture and where they have been installed. Architects: A. McInnis Gardiner and Partners.

- **Tiles**, from John Browne & Co. (Bridgwater) Ltd., Old Taunton Road, Bridgwater, Somerset. Telephone: Bridgwater 2251. Free.

This new booklet on clay roofing tiles supplies much information for the guidance of estimators, quantity surveyors and architects in a compact form. Both hand and machine made tiles are dealt with.

- **Electrical accessories**, by Nettle Accessories Ltd., Harper Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester 22. Telephone: Wythenshawe 4321. Free.

Three new publications illustrating items in the "Nettle" range; their industrial and standard types, price list and



Two examples of contemporary work by the London Sand Blast Decorative Glass Works Ltd., of Seager Place, Burdett Road, London, E.3.

## Information Digest (continued)

the range of moulded striplight and illuminated flower lights.

- **Four new leaflets**, from Holophane Ltd., Elverton St., London, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 8062. Free.

These publications deal with, No. SL855 Single piece Dome Refractors, No. SL955 single piece bowl refractors, No. SL256 Lumifactor street lighting lantern, and No. 55/2 Holophane abridged catalogue. The first two are new lanterns for group B street lighting that meet the recently published B.S. Code of Practice CP.1004 part 2. The third is a lantern for narrow B roads and is a departure from traditional lantern design. The last describes briefly the range of Holophane commercial, industrial and street lighting units suitable for overseas markets.

- **Ruberoid products**, by the Ruberoid Co. Ltd., 1-19, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1. Telephone: Holborn 8797. Free.

A twenty-four page brochure which includes an introduction to the company, if such were needed, and a description of the main products, their characteristics, uses, comparative weights and application. Thoroughly illustrated.

- **Flooring topics, Vol. 1, No. 2**, from Tretol Associated Products Ltd., Tretol House, The Hyde, London, N.W.9. Telephone: Colindale 7223. Free.

A four-page broadsheet that includes a short survey of the various types of floor finishes suitable for use in modern industry, bearing in mind that the various prob-

lems usually encountered include wear by abrasion and chemical attack. Another article, "the Basic Controversy", discusses hollow timber floors as opposed to solid concrete floors.

- **Introducing Wearproof Industrial Floors**, from British Bitumen Emulsions Ltd., Dundee Road, Trading Estate, Slough, Bucks. Telephone: Slough 21261. Free.

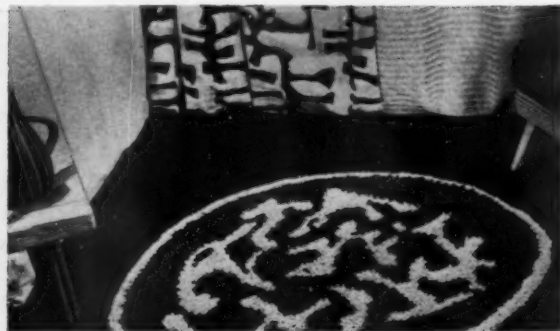
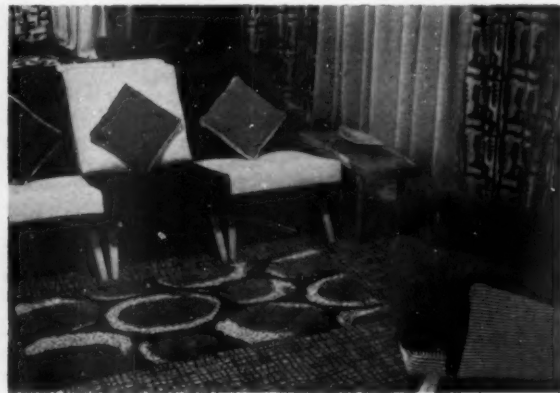
A new concrete additive which enables repairs to be carried out on worn and broken concrete without hacking or deepening. It can be laid as thin as  $\frac{1}{4}$  in and to a feather edge. It is suitable as an overlay on any clean dry floor not affected by damp or chemical action. Forms a resilient surface.

- **Memo**, from William Briggs & Sons Ltd., Vauxhall Grove, London, S.W.8. Telephone: Reliance 5961. Free.

A twelve-page booklet describing 'Bitumetal', an aluminium roof deck, with methods of fixing and finishing at various types of edge details. Readers are invited to take advantage of their advisory department with its team of draughtsmen and roof technicians.

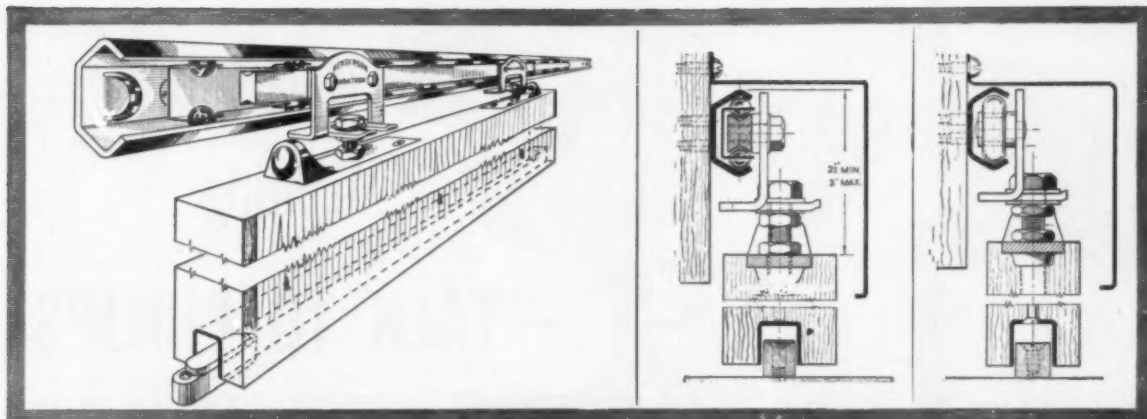
- **Architects' book of One Hundred Wallpapers**, from the Wall Paper Manufacturers Ltd., King's House, King Street West, Manchester 3. Telephone: Blackfriars 4325. Free.

This is the third edition of this popular book which is so less bulky than normal wallpaper pattern books. As usual the variety of designs varies from the humdrum to the exciting. There are some interesting water-resisting designs at the back. All the papers comply with B.S.1248 and are machine printed.



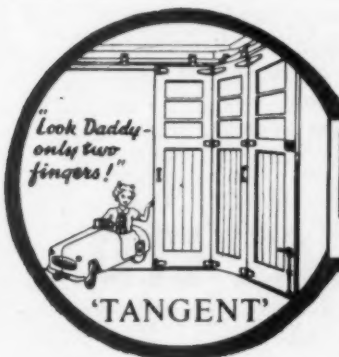
Four examples from an exhibition held at S. J. Stockwell & Co. (Carpets) Ltd. earlier this year. All designed by Tibor Reich, F.S.I.A., they include, top left, "Freeform" Viceroys rugs. Top right, "Hogarth" carpet and "Dolomit" rug with Gomme chairs and Vesper chair. Bottom left, Stockwell's Equerry Wilton Carpet in Hogarth design and "Avacado" fabric. Bottom right, Viceroys "Tinta" rug and "Raw Coral" curtain material.

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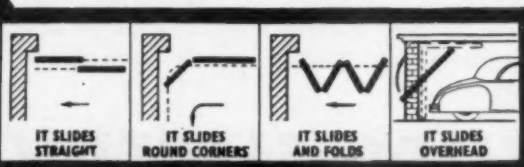


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L.5	2' 0" - 2' 6"	32/6	J.1	1' 1" - 1' 10"	42/-	H.5	2' 0" - 2' 6"	26/-
L.6	2' 7" - 3' 0"	35/-	J.2	1' 10" - 2' 4"	44/-	H.6	2' 7" - 3' 0"	28/6
L.7	3' 1" - 3' 6"	37/6	J.3	2' 4" - 2' 10"	45/-	H.7	3' 1" - 3' 6"	31/-
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			J.5	3' 4" - 4' 0"	55/-			
			For doors up to 150 lbs. weight.					
			S.3	1' 6" - 2' 10"	52/9			
			S.4	2' 10" - 3' 4"	56/-			
			S.5	3' 4" - 4' 0"	63/-			



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branch area can call on the accumulated knowledge of the Century House staff, which includes a fully qualified architect who has made a special study of lighting in its relation to architecture and colour.

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## Planned Maintenance

I WAS extremely interested to read an article on this subject by Mr. C. G. Monkhouse, the Chief Engineer of Kodak Limited, in 'The Manager', and noted that it was reproduced in the Journal 'E.P.A.' as it indicated that at last, at least in some quarters if not in the building industry, there is a growing interest in this vitally important subject. While the article was essentially written from the aspect of planned maintenance of industrial buildings, their plant and equipment, its statements, recommendations and ideas are of equal importance to anybody responsible for any kind of building. The second and part of the third paragraphs from the reprint in 'E.P.A.' as set out below, merit being quoted in building industry journals:

"There is nothing new or magic about planned maintenance, but how many of us give it serious thought? Before establishing a challenging approach to our attitude in the factory, let us digress for a moment and consider our attitude in the home. Do we, for example, plan our external and internal house painting? Do we make regular inspection of sash-cords, tap washers, water tanks, etc., or do we wait until the worst happens? Do we at the best times clear out our roof gutters and rain-water gullies, and do we have our soil drains rodded once a year? The probable answer is that we do not.

Similar failure in the industrial equivalents of these small points might have serious repercussions on our business. We must ask ourselves whether we too often rely on the maintenance man's memory or initiative to carry out essential maintenance thinking."

Further in the article the writer sets out a number of alternative maintenance policies which appear to be available, which are as follows:

1. To make every piece of equipment so robust that only minimum maintenance would be required. This is as unpractical as it is expensive.
2. Run all equipment to destruction and then replace it. Combined with proper record keeping and designed improvements, this has a limited application.
3. Duplicate practically everything so that when a break-down occurs a standby takes over.
4. Employ a maintenance force standing by for a call from production supervision. This means delaying

maintenance work until the trouble is apparent and in most cases the repair work would be more extensive than if it has been caught earlier by the maintenance man.

5. Plan and execute systematically, to agreed standards of specific maintenance tasks, designed to balance reliability and cost within economic limits.

For ordinary industrial undertakings of these alternatives No. 5 above appears to be the best choice in the opinion of the author for most applications and there would seem to be very little doubt that in relation to buildings and their equipment, it is the only sound policy to adopt, although there are circumstances in which it is equally essential to adopt No. 3 for certain equipment.

What ought we of the building industry be learning about this subject of planning of our maintenance from other industries. I think those responsible for buildings have a great deal to learn from those sections of industry which plan maintenance systematically, especially the fact that such planning is financially very advantageous to building owners as there is no doubt that the proverb 'a stitch in time' is extremely applicable to buildings. It would also seem that if adequate information gained from experience or case histories could be made available there would be a great deal to learn which would influence considerably the attitude of building owners, but in addition, from the planning of maintenance much could be gained about the relationship of maintenance costs to first costs which are so often cut down below economic levels. From the architect's angle I am afraid the normal reaction to the subject of maintenance tends to be 'I am not really very concerned as once the building is completed as maintenance becomes someone else's problem.' Architects, except staff architects, are, unfortunately, seldom employed to look after the maintenance of the buildings they design. This is most regrettable as there is so much information to be gained by the study of what goes wrong with buildings that can only be learned with any accuracy from a close study of maintenance expenditure.

From the point of view of the builder there appears to be very little interest in maintenance except that to many it provides a constant source of further work. The builder's reply when questioned is usually "I only do

what I am told on the specification, and if it involves early and frequent maintenance this is a matter between the architect and the building owner". On the whole, therefore, maintenance tends normally to be almost entirely a building owners' affair and the responsibility falls on him.

I am sure that architects become much more aware of the subject of maintenance when they are retained by the owners to look after the buildings they design, and experience has shown me that it pays owners to retain their architects to care for the buildings they have designed and to tell them that they propose to do this at the time the architect is engaged. There seems very little doubt that the staff architects of local authorities and owners of much property are far more conscious, when designing and building, of the probabilities of maintenance and consequently design and select their materials with at least one eye directed towards the retention of the recurring up-keep costs within reasonable limits. This is borne out by the frequency that one hears complaints from those who work for local authorities that because they have to keep within overall first costs on account of control of costs, due to loan sanctions and the like, they are forced, against their proper judgment, to use materials which they know will be much more costly to maintain, and that total expenditure on a given building over a period of say twenty years or more will be much higher than they would have been if slightly higher first costs, associated with reduced maintenance, had been permitted.

A factor connected with maintenance, which is often completely overlooked, is the very great inconvenience which may be caused to occupiers of buildings while maintenance is carried out. In many instances the loss of use of the buildings, and consequent loss of sales or production, may justify extremely large initial expenditure on materials which are unlikely to involve more than the simplest maintenance, such as cleaning, over long periods.

One of the difficulties that face all those responsible for the selection of materials and their application in the design of buildings is the very meagre amount of cost data for maintenance work on which the economics of selection for new buildings can be based. Good records of maintenance costs are an essential prerequisite as a means of evaluation and, while these may occasionally be available to individual building owners, they are seldom published as guidance for others.

*Continued overleaf*

## Planned Maintenance

I know of many organisations that follow the procedure of retaining their architects or a maintenance engineer, or even a clerk of works, to take care of regular maintenance. From discussions with some of them there is no doubt that such a procedure pays dividends, because failures and breakdowns are anticipated by the regular care which planned maintenance ensures. Furthermore, limited but regular expenditure with properly planned application can often reduce the overall financial burden of build-

ing ownership. The effectiveness of maintenance is difficult to measure as failures due to lack of it usually amount to loss of efficiency or convenience rather than to loss of production or use of the building. Important gains can be achieved by noting carefully all maintenance carried out and the materials and buildings components affected as planning on the basis of this information can greatly reduce future failures if alterations and corrections are made during repairs or by the better design of new buildings and the more careful evaluation of materials used.

Properly planned maintenance as an

aid to safety is of extreme importance, and in this respect many contractors have become so very conscious of the advantages that they take steps to care for their plant and equipment continually; there is no doubt that this policy is financially advantageous, but regretfully there remain many in our industry who only carry out maintenance to plant when they must, probably as a result of some failure, and then frequently it is found to be too late for maintenance and instead scrapping is necessary instead of repairing.

**DUTCH UNCLE**



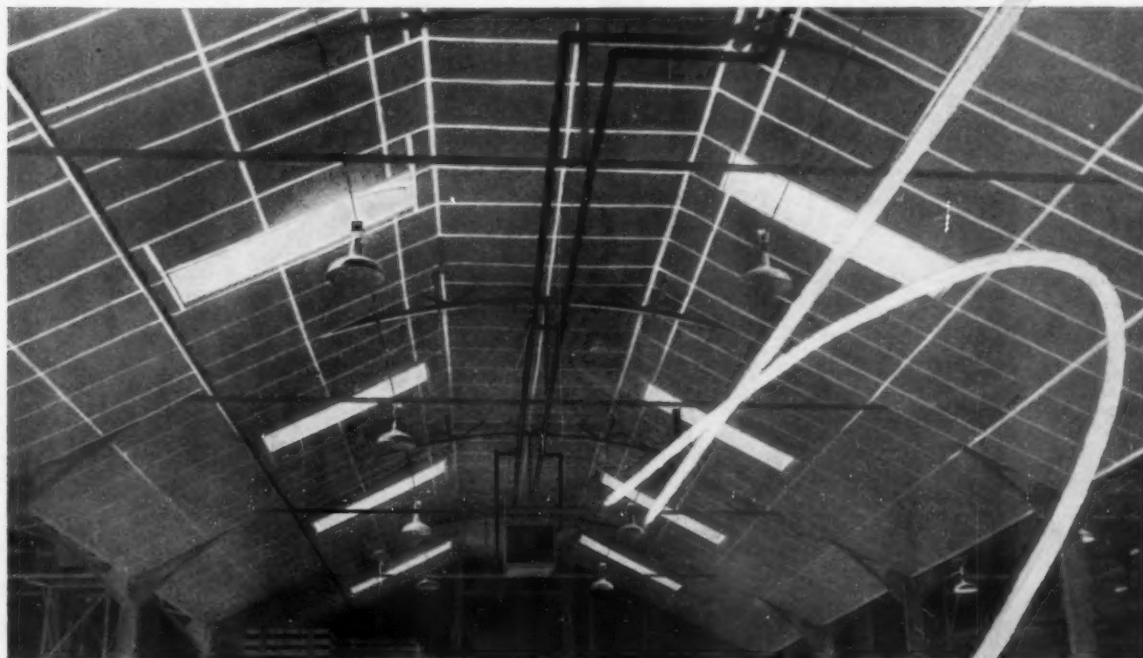
## The Bacon & Egg

J. Lyons & Co. Ltd. have opened this new restaurant as an extension to their existing maison at Marble Arch. Traditional English dishes are served direct to diners by chefs preparing the food in glass partitioned kitchen seen in the background of the picture on the right. Table tops are grey Warite and the seats have washable Acella fabric imported from Germany. Designs were by the architectural department of the restaurateurs and the contractor was Frederick Sage Ltd.



## This new ceiling board reduces fuel bills, noise and fire risks

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**Fire resistance test BS 476/1953** : Class I (Surface of very low flame spread — the highest classification.) *N.B. As its fire resistance does not depend on a surface treatment, the board remains Class I, even when punctured or cut.*

The new board is supplied in one size to suit a grid 4' x 2' on centres, in thicknesses of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $\frac{3}{4}$ ", 1" — and up to 2", to order and is compatible with most rail systems. Weight, at 1" thickness, only 10-ozs./board foot, or 60 lbs./100 ft.

*Decoration, with a non-bridging paint, is straightforward*

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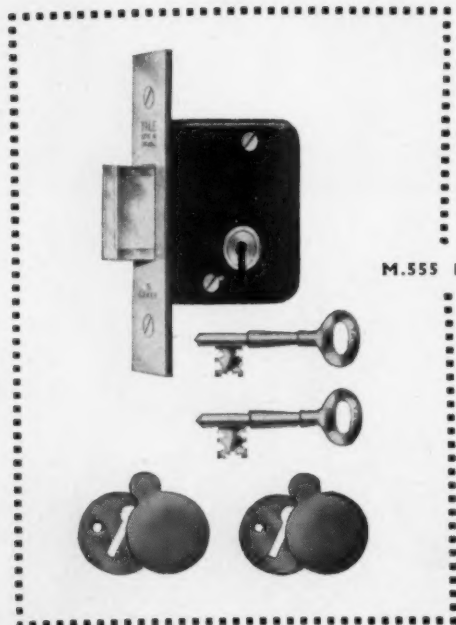
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## Free House!



It wasn't supposed to be an invitation. The trouble is so many old locks do no more than just keep the door closed (and sometimes not even that) whilst real security measures are non-existent. The safest course if you value your property is to re-equip all important doors inside and out with the world's most reliable locks — YALE. There are YALE locks and padlocks to meet every security risk. Here is an example:



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The latest lock for keeping out the uninvited 'guest' from lock-up premises. Designed to meet insurance requirements, it is a 5-lever deadlock operable by key from both sides. Differs are obtainable on levers only and not by use of wards, making it extremely difficult to pick. Its steel reinforced deadbolt and 10" steel striking plate make it almost impossible to force. Available ex stock; literature on request.

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## Industrial Notes

● At the Annual General Meeting of the British Electrical Development Association, in the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday, 24th April, Viscount Chandos, D.S.O., M.C., was re-elected President for the year 1956/7. The following were elected as Vice-Presidents of the E.D.A. in recognition of their past services to the Association: Messrs. H. J. Randall, C.B.E., F.C.I.S., Comp.I.E.E., Chairman, London Electricity Board, S. F. Steward, C.B.E., M.I.Prod.E., ex-Chairman South Western Electricity Board, and E. R. Wilkinson, C.M.G., M.I.E.E., M.I.Mech.E., former Chief Commercial Officer, Central Electricity Authority (all former Chairmen of E.D.A. Council) and Mr. E. H. Mullens, B.Sc., M.I.E.E., ex-Chairman North Eastern Electricity Board. At the first meeting of the new Council, Mr. D. Bellamy, O.B.E., D.L., F.A.C.C.A., F.C.W.A., Comp.I.E.E., F.S.S., F.R.Econ.S., Chairman of the Yorkshire Electricity Board, was elected Chairman, and Mr. W. S. Lewis, C.B.E., J.P., Comp.I.E.E., A.C.E. (B'ham.), Chairman, Midlands Electricity Board, was appointed Vice-Chairman for the current year.

● The A.E.I. Lamp and Lighting Company has recently acquired a large storage depot at Southall, Middlesex. One of the primary objects of forming the new A.E.I. company was to rationalise the distribution of lamps and fittings and to provide prompt delivery throughout the country. It is as a direct consequence of this intention that the new warehouse, which will employ the most modern stocking system, has been set up, and in future the entire Southern Region of England, as well as export markets, will be supplied from this one point. The total storage space is nearly 2½ million cubic feet and there is an additional area of over four acres of land for future expansion. The volume of lamps and lighting equipment to be handled at Southall is expected eventually to compare with that of warehouses in the United States where some depots turn over as many as 100 million lamps a

year. Mr. W. R. H. Vickery, who is responsible for distribution planning, including this establishment, has recently returned from a visit to the States where he studied American warehousing practice and their system of packaging and distribution.

● Reckitt & Colman Holdings Limited announce that they have made an offer to purchase for cash the whole of the Issued Capital of Sissons Brothers & Co. Ltd., paint and varnish manufacturers, of Hull, upon the following terms: £205,845 7½% Participating Cumulative Preference Stock at 27/9 per £1 Stock Unit. £29,000 5% Participating Cumulative Preference Stock at 18/6 per £1 Stock Unit. £333,801 Ordinary Stock at 13/4 per 5/- Stock Unit. The offer is conditional upon acceptance by the holders of 90 per cent. of each class of stock or by such less percentage as Reckitts may decide. The present Board of Directors will remain in office and thus continuity of management is assured. In addition, two representatives of Reckitt & Colman Limited will join the Board.

● Mr. G. T. Noble, general sales manager, has been appointed a director of W. H. Heywood and Co. Ltd., patent glazing and roofing engineers, Bayhall Works, Huddersfield.

● The Board of Trade have made an Order (S.I.1956/626) coming into force on April 27, to amend the Control of Hiring Order, 1956 (S.I.1956/179). It provides that the term "rental" includes any payment, howsoever payable, made wholly or partly for the possession or use of controlled goods, and requires that the total amount of rentals payable under a hiring agreement shall be ascertainable at the date of the signing of the agreement.

● British Titan Products Co. Ltd., of York, and African Explosives & Chemical Industries Ltd., of Johannesburg, South Africa, announce that they are forming a new joint company in South Africa which is starting immediately with the erection at Umbogintwini, on the Natal South Coast some 17 miles from Durban, of a plant to manufacture Titanium Dioxide pigments. This plant

which it is intended will reach the production stage towards the end of 1958, is designed to meet the whole of the growing demand in South Africa for Titanium Dioxide, a product which has hitherto been imported.

● The Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. Ltd., has appointed Mr. M. H. Sandeman as Area Manager of the company's Ardsley building area at Common Lane, East Ardsley, nr. Wakefield, Yorks. Mr. Sandeman was until recently mastic works manager of the Birmingham branch of the company.

● Mr. R. Ross Seymour, Chairman of the Brady Group of Companies, suppliers of Steel and Wood Rolling Shutters, Overdoors, Collapsible Gates, Lifts, etc. sailed on the maiden voyage of the "Empress of Britain" on an extended business tour of Canada and the United States. He left on April 19th and expects to cover many thousands of miles by land, sea and air to add impetus to the export dollar drive.

● Following the recent announcement that the country has been divided into seven A.E.I. Lamp and Lighting Sales Regions, responsible for sales in the British Isles, the Company announce that their central organisation now consists of separate Lamp and Lighting Sales Divisions and a Publicity Division. The following appointments have been made: W. C. Huston, Manager, Lamp Sales Division; C. W. M. Phillips, A.M.I.E.E., F.I.E.S., Manager, Lighting Sales Division; O. W. J. Farmer, Manager, Publicity Division.

● The President of the Board of Trade informed the House of Commons on April 25th, 1956, that the Government have concluded that a case has not been made out for the increase of the import duty on (1) Flashed sheet glass consisting of a layer of coloured or opal glass on a base of clear glass (2) Sheet glass of the kinds commonly known as signal green, signal yellow, and pot opal or solid opal.

● The Universal Asbestos Manufacturing Co. Ltd., of Tolpits, Watford, Herts, have appointed Mr. P. H. Brown as their Sales Representative in Lancashire (other than Manchester and Liverpool), Cumberland and Westmorland. He will be based at 196 Deansgate, Manchester (telephone: Blackfriars 2466).

● The Directors of The Rawlplug Co. Ltd. recommend the payment of a Final Dividend on the Ordinary Shares of 40% less Tax, for the year ended 31st December, 1955. This payment, together with the Interim Dividend of 10%, makes a total Ordinary Dividend of 50% against 40% for 1954. The Board of Directors propose to submit to the Shareholders proposals for the capitalisation of £100,000 of the Company's Reserves, and to issue to the Ordinary Shareholders one fully paid Bonus Ordinary Share for every two Ordinary Shares held.

*The Black Horse Garage, Richmond. Architect, Oswald D. Pearce; assistant, Duncan Pearce of J. Douglass Mathews & Partners. Consulting Engineer, R. A. Sefton Jenkins.*



## NEW PRODUCTS

The field of domestic heating is well catered for; perhaps the last winter with its unusual severity provided a boost as the manufacturers design more and more heaters with increased efficiencies and better appearance. Oil fuel has also its increased interest. From the portable burner to the oil-fired boiler, development has gone apace.

★

The Hursel Heating Group have entered the specialised field of industrial safety devices and have produced flameproof models of their wide range of column and panel radiators. These radiators are oil-filled and heated by electrical elements; one is shown in Fig. 1.

★

The Juno oil convector heater is supplied in two sizes, by Astex Ltd., Central House, 34-36, Oxford Street, London, W.1, having a space heating capacity of 3,531 and 4,767 cu ft. Both models are also available with an electric pre-heater which reduces the time taken to reach maximum output from about twenty minutes to five minutes. These heaters require a flue and burn diesel oil. Fig. 2.

★

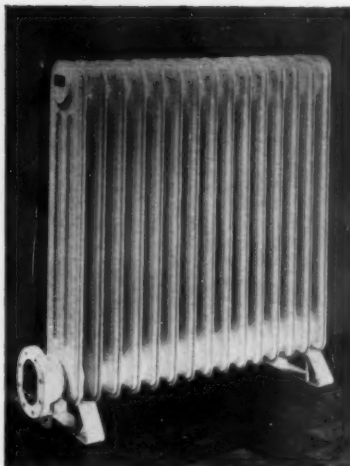
Fig. 3 shows the Marvec fire with boiler, a continuous burning open fire made by Allied Ironfounders Ltd., which also supplies convected heat when fitted with a cast iron flue adaptor. Available in two colours, suitable for surrounds with a 16in by 22in fire opening.

★

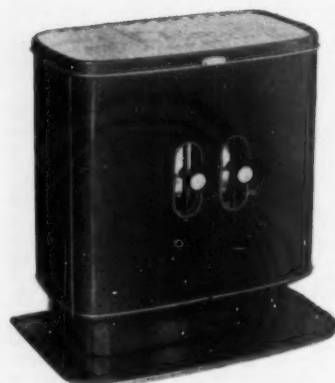
Westool Ltd., of St. Helen's Auckland, County Durham, produce a range of dehumidifiers and air conditioners, one of which is shown in Fig. 4. The Continental model is available with or without thermostatic heating and cooling control and with or without a heater. When heating or cooling is not required the Climatiser can be used for ventilation only. There is an air filter and the proportion of stale air extraction and fresh air admittance can be varied.

★

The Spiraluxe mark II is a miniature fan heater by the Spiral Tube & Components Co. Ltd., of Osmaston Park Road, Derby, and it is made in two types each with two loadings, either 2 or 3 kW. Both wall mounting and portable types have an automatic cut-out that safeguards the elements should the fan be stopped. Both models are fully adjustable vertically and horizontally. The fan can be run independently in hot weather. Fig. 5.

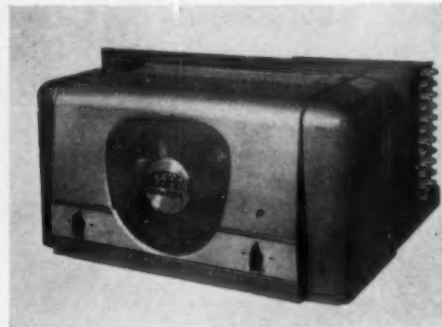


1



2

3



4



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The Warma paraffin heater, Fig. 6, by W. H. Paul Ltd., of Breaston, Derby, has an output of approximately three kilowatts burning domestic fuel oil at a rate of one gallon in seventeen hours. Control of burning can be made and the consumption reduced to one gallon in thirty hours. The heater is available in two finishes, cream or bronze, and it has adjustable feet for accurate levelling.



Methodist Chapel, Pymore, near Ely.

Architects: D. C. Denton-Smith & Partners, L./A.A.R.I.B.A., Accotile Specialist Contractors, Holmes (Norwich) Ltd.

## in keeping with modern ecclesiastical architecture...

Simplicity and dignity need a dominant note of contrast to heighten their effect. The Architect of the interior shown above chose Accotile thermo-plastic tile Flooring and with directional design produced this striking floor pattern. It is this scope for design and colour harmony that makes Accotile so suitable, so modern a material for new-look

floors in all types of buildings. Easily laid, hygienic and hard-wearing with 22 colours from which to choose. Full technical details and samples are available from ARMSTRONG CORK COMPANY LTD., Flooring Department, Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2. Tel: COVENT Garden 1101.

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# Armstrong ACCOTILE<sup>\*</sup> Flooring

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ARCHITECT: ARTHUR STEPHENSON





## The Best Floor For Our 53 Laboratories

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Nottingham University decided to cover the floor of the Laboratories, Staff Rooms and Lecture Rooms in their Biology Building. Since the floors would be subject to continual traffic and, more especially, exposure to all manner of chemicals, the University Laboratories themselves tested various types of floor covering. Nairn Vinyl Tiles proved, on test, to be the most satisfactory and were used exclusively.

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For years, both here and in the U.S.A., laboratory research and stringent practical tests have *proved* the wear-resistance of Nairn Vinyl Tile Floors.

One of the 53 Laboratories in the Biology Building of Nottingham University with Nairn Vinyl Tile Flooring.

Contractor: THRIVES AND SONS, NOTTINGHAM.



Please write to us (at Office 103) for further information, literature and advice.

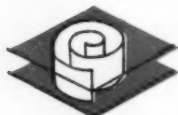
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W. I. C. Mangan, M.I.A.A.S.*

**remove a doubt**

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- ★ easily worked
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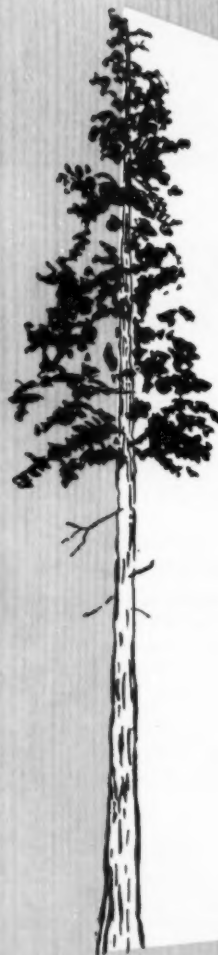
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** concerning Canadian woods contact **The Commercial Counsellor (Timber), Canada House, Trafalgar Sq., London, S.W.1.**

**WOOD ...**  
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Reproduced here is figure of Canadian Douglas fir.

This advertisement is one of a series featuring Canadian Spruce, White Pine, Western Red Cedar, Red Pine and Pacific Coast Hemlock.

T.I.M. - 2







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**BUSINESS REPLY CARD**  
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Reader's Name and Address.....

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**DATE OF ISSUE 10 MAY, 1956**

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in a bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

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& SONS, LTD.**  
**BULWELL — NOTTINGHAM**

# CONTRACT • NEWS •

OPEN

## BUILDING

**BRIGHOUSE B.C.** (a) Contract No. 61. Erection of 12 bungalows at Field Lane estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Commercial Street. (c) May 28.

**BROMLEY B.C.** (a) Erection of 28 flats at Weston Grove. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, together with details of similar schemes undertaken, together with the names of two independent persons to whom reference can be made concerning such schemes. (c) 2gns. (d) May 17.

**CHELMSFORD B.C.** (a) Erection of (1) three blocks containing 33 flats, at New Writtle Street and Baker Street, and (2) four pairs of Type A.2. houses at Lady Lane. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, Duke Street. (c) 2gns each contract. (e) June 18.

**CHISLEHURST AND SIDCUP U.C.** (a) Erection of 11 garages at Princes Close and 19 garages at Pembury Crescent. (b) Council's Engineer, Manor House. (c) 2gns. (d) May 18.

**CORNWALL C.C.** (a) Erection of extensions to the Helston Grammar School. (b) Sydney Gregson, Keighley, Tregolls Road, Truro. (c) 1gn. (e) June 4.

**COVENTRY CORPORATION.** (a) Erection of 10 police dwellings at Alfred Road. (b) Redgrave and Partners, 6, The Quadrant. (c) 2gns. (d) May 12. (e) June 11.

**DAVENTRY R.C.** (a) Erection of 6 houses and 4 bungalows at Braunston. (b) Council's Surveyor, Council Offices, Church Walk. (c) 3gns. (e) May 19.

**DOVER B.C.** (a) Erection of (Contract No. 49) a pair of houses at Odo Road, and (Contract No. 50) one block of four houses and two pairs of houses at St. Patrick's Road, Aycliffe Estate, together with site and ancillary works. (b) Borough Engineer, Brook House. (c) 2gns each contract. (e) May 21.

**EIRE — DUBLIN CORPORATION.** (a) Erection of two blocks of flat dwellings at Love Lane. (b) City Treasurer, Exchange Buildings, Lord Edward Street. (c) 15gns. (e) May 29.

**EIRE — FINGLAS.** (a) Erection and completion of new girls' and infants' school at Finglas West, for the Sisters of the Holy Faith, Flansnevin. (b) Messrs. A. Edward Smith and Co., 4, Wilton Place, Dublin. (c) £26 5s. (e) June 13.

**EIRE — WESTMEATH C.C.** (a) Erection of a dispensary depot at Kinnegad. (b) County Secretary, County Buildings, Mullingar. (c) £2. (e) May 22.

**EIRE — OFFALY VOCATIONAL E.C.** (a) Erection and completion of proposed new school at Clara, Co. Offaly. (b) Messrs. F. D. Shortall and Co., 10, South Leinster Street, Dublin. (c) 5gns. (e) May 23.

**EIRE — OFFALY VOCATIONAL E.C.** (a) Erection and completion of proposed new school at Edenderry, Co. Offaly. (b) John O'Brien, 8, South Leinster Street, Dublin. (c) 5gns. (e) May 23.

**EIRE — WESTMEATH C.C.** (a) Erection of a dispensary depot at Finea. (b) County Secretary, County Buildings, Mullingar. (c) £2. (e) May 22.

address it is the same as the locality given in the heading (c) deposit (d) last date of application (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked \* are given in the advertisement section.

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USED IN PORTLAND CEMENT  
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Postal tuition in History, Testimonies, Design, Calculations, Materials, Construction, Structures, Hygiene, Specification, Professional Practice, etc. Also in general educational subjects.

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BALUSTRADES AND  
HANDRAILS**



**ESSEX C.C.** (a) Erection of additional classrooms, cloakrooms, and reconstruction of existing sanitary accommodation at Boxted C.E. School. Approx. cost £7,500. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) May 19.

**GRAVESEND B.C.** (a) Erection of a branch library and one block of six flats at Sun Lane. (b) Borough Engineer, 6, Woodville Terrace. (c) 2gns. (e) June 2.

**HAMPSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY.** (a) Erection of a police house at Nursling Street, Rowhams, near Southampton. (b) County Architect, The Castle, Winchester. (c) Ign. (d) May 18.

**HEMSWORTH R.C.** (a) Erection and completion of 30 houses at South Elmsall. (b) Council's Engineer, Brierley Hall, Brierley, near Barnsley. (c) 2gns. (e) May 28.

**LINCOLN C.C.** (a) Carrying out alterations and extensions to boiler house and fuel store and ancillary works at Bourne Junior and County Secondary Modern School, Abbey Road. (b) County Architect, County Offices, Sleaford, Lincs. (e) May 25.

**LINCOLN C.C.** (a) Erection of an extension to the boiler house to form a fuel store at The King's School, Grantham. (b) County Architect, County Offices, Sleaford. (e) May 25.

**LIVERPOOL REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.** (a) The Board intends to adopt a system of selective tendering for building contracts throughout their area, which includes Merseyside, Southport, Ormskirk, St. Helens, Warrington, Wirral, Chester and West Cheshire, and which will be divided into the following: Group 1, £50,000 to £100,000; Group 2, £25,000 to £50,000; Group 3, £10,000 to £25,000; Group 4, £3,000 to £10,000 and Group 5, £250 to £3,000. (b) Board's Secretary, 19, James Street, Liverpool 2, stating clearly the Group or Groups in which contractors are interested together with brief details of contracts recently carried out, indicating size and cost, and the names of the Architects concerned. (d) May 31.

**LONDON — EALING B.C.** (a) Erection of two blocks of flatlets at 68-70, St. Mary's Road. (b) Borough Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) £2. (e) May 25.

**LONDON — WALTHAMSTOW B.C.** (a) Erection of a block of 6 flats on a site between Nos. 100-110, Markhouse Road. E.17. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) June 1.

**LONDON — WALTHAMSTOW B.C.** (a) Erection of a block of 14 flats and a block of 12 garages on the site of No. 28, Castle Avenue, Highams Park, E.4. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) June 1.

**LONDON — WIMBLEDON B.C.** (a) Erection of 16 bungalows at Queensmere Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, in writing. (c) 2gns. (d) May 15.

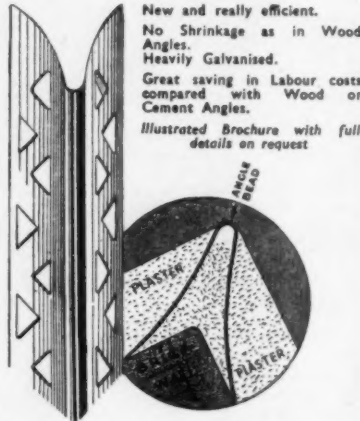
**LONDON — WOOD GREEN B.C.** (a) Erection of 3 flats on a site adjoining 217, Alexandra Park Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) Ign. (e) June 7.

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Now has TWICE the Number of Perforations, giving TWICE the Strength of the Old Type.



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Cabinet & Metal Works Ltd.  
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ARCHITECTS' PLAN CHESTS**



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**NEATH B.C.** (a) Erection of 20 houses at Cwm Bedd, Giant's Grave site, Briton Ferry. (b) Borough Engineer, Gwyn Hall. (e) May 19.

**NORFOLK E.C.** (a) Erection of first instalment of a new school at Old Catton, near Norwich. (b) Chief Education Officer, Education Offices, Stracey Road. (d) May 16.

**NORFOLK C.C.** (a) Erection of one police house at Fincham and one at Grimston. (b) County Architect, 27, Thorpe Road, Norwich. (e) May 23.

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE C.C.** (a) Erection of a classroom at Oundle C.E. School, and classrooms and staff room at Thrapston Primary School. (b) County Architect, Countv Hall. (d) May 15.

**N. IRELAND — COLERAINE R.C.** (a) Erection of 6 houses at Bellany. (b) W. and M. Given, 1, Waterside, or C. G. Dalzell, Borthorn Bank Buildings. (c) 5gns. (e) May 19.

**N. IRELAND — TYRONE.** (a) Supply, fabrication and erection of structural steelwork for boys' intermediate school at Melmount, Strabane, for Very Rev. G. Faulkner, P.P. (b) Messrs. Clarke, Nichols and Marcel, 37, Malone Road, Belfast. (c) 3gns. by cheque. (e) May 25.

**PETERBOROUGH JOINT EDUCATION BOARD.** (a) Erection of 3 classrooms and ancillary accommodation at Walten J.M. School, Mountsteven Avenue. (b) Messrs. S. Dodson and Son, Museum Buildings, Priestgate. (c) 2gns. (d) May 14. (e) June 6.

**PETERBOROUGH JOINT EDUCATION BOARD.** (a) Erection of three classrooms at Walton Secondary School, Mountsteven Avenue. (b) Messrs. S. Dodson and Son, Museum Buildings, Priestgate. (c) 2gns. (d) May 14. (e) June 6.

**PONTYPOOL R.C.** (a) Erection of 4 houses, together with sewers, etc., at Lamb Lane, Ponthir. (b) Thomas and Morgan and Partners, 23, Gelliwasad Road, Pontypridd. (c) 3gns. (e) June 8.

**POOLE B.C.** (a) Erection of 20 houses on the Alderney West Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Buildings. (c) 2gns. (e) May 19.

**RICHMOND B.C.** (a) Erection of a block of two flats in Raleigh Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Hotham House, Heron Court. (c) 3gns. (e) May 31.

**ROTHWELL U.C.** (a) Erection of two shops with one flat above at High Street. (b) Council's Surveyor, Manor House. (c) 2gns. (e) May 23.

**RUGBY B.C.** (a) Erection of 24 three-storey flats, 14 garages and stores, together with site works, at Abbots Farm Estate, Hillmorton. (b) Borough Surveyor, Burford House. (c) 2gns. (e) June 11.

**SALFORD C.C.** (a) Erection of three-bedroomed detached house at Strawberry Hill. (b) City Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) May 29.

**SCOTLAND — CLYDEBANK.** (a) Erection of 64 flats and 60 cottages at Fairley site. (b) Scottish Special Housing Association, Ltd., 15-21, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, 12.

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**PARAMOUNT ASPHALTE  
LIMITED**

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**SCOTLAND — EDINBURGH CITY AND ROYAL B.C.** (a) Erection of 124 houses at Comiston Housing Development, Area No. 7. All or separate trades. (b) City Architect, City Chambers, Edinburgh. (d) May 14. (e) June 18.

**SCOTLAND — FIFE MENTAL HOSPITALS BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.** (a) Carrying out internal building work at Stratheden Hospital, Cupar. (b) Messrs. Partridge, Earp and Partners, 18, Great King Street, Edinburgh. (d) May 14. (e) June 11.

**SCOTLAND — MIDLOTHIAN C.C.** (a) Erection of 6 houses at Carrington. (b) County Architect, 32, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh. 12.

**SMETHWICK B.C.** (a) Conversion of 63, Holly Lane, into two-bedroom flats. (b) Borough Engineer, Council House. (c) 2gns. by cheque payable to Council. (e) June 8.

### PLACED

Notes on contracts placed state locality and authority in bold type with (1) type of work, (2) site, (3) name of contractor and address, (4) amount of tender or estimate. † denotes that work may not start pending final acceptance, or obtaining of licence, or modification of tenders, etc.

**N. METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.** (1) Casualty department. (2) North Middlesex Hospital. (3) Prestige and Co. Ltd., Grosvenor Road, London, S.W.1. (4) £56,700.

**CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION.** (1) Block of flats, shops, etc. (2) Great Suffolk Street, S.E.1. (3) Walter Lawrence and Son Ltd., Sun Street, Finsbury, E.C.2. (4) £250,750.

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you cannot improve on  
**Reskol Fungicide**  
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London Office:  
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6 Southampton Place, W.C.1.  
Tel.: HOLborn 3555-6.

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**WEST HAM B.C.** (1) Grammar school. (2) Stratford E. (3) J. and R. Roof Ltd., 63, Boundary Road, London, E.13. (4) £210,836.

**BERKSHIRE.** (1) Laboratories for Esso Petroleum Co. Ltd. (2) Abingdon. (3) W. E. Chivers and Sons Ltd., Devizes, Wilts. (4) £450,000.

**BATTERSEA B.C.** (1) Development. (2) Anerley Street site. (3) Rush and Tompkins Ltd., Station Road, Sidcup, Kent. (4) £241,804.

**GLASGOW CORPORATION.** (1) 1,265 houses. (2) Easterhouse. (3) Housing and Works Department (direct labour). (4) £2,011,318.

**BERKSHIRE.** (1) Ordnance factory additions. (2) Burghfield. (3) Lavender McMillan Ltd., 54, Cheam Common Road, Worcester Park, Surrey. (4) £750,000.

**CRAWLEY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.** (1) Site works, road works, etc. (2) Town Centre and Three Bridges Road. (3) Mears Bros. (Contractors) Ltd., 154, Sydenham Road, London, S.E.26. (4) £200,500.

**ESSEX C.C.** (1) Technical school. (2) Aveley. (3) A. A. Stuart and Sons (Glasgow) Ltd., Westminster. (1) Nightingale Secondary School. (2) Wanstead. (3) J. and J. Dean Ltd., Ruckholt Road, Leytonstone, E. (1) Latton Common No. 3 Primary School. (2) Harlow. (3) J. Whiffen and Sons Ltd., Epping, Essex. (1) Secondary school. (2) Tiptree. (3) T. J. Evers Ltd., Tiptree, Essex. (1) Residential special school. (2) Chigwell. (3) William J. Jerram Ltd., Sandford Road, London, E.6. (1) Secondary school. (2) Burnham-on-Crouch. (3) W. E. Wisbey and Son, London Road, Chelmsford.

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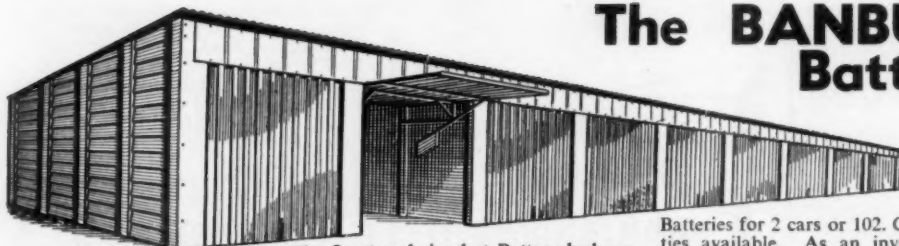
**RAWLINGS BROS  
LIMITED**

Head Office:

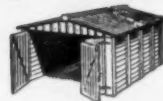
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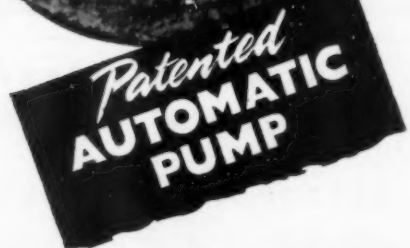
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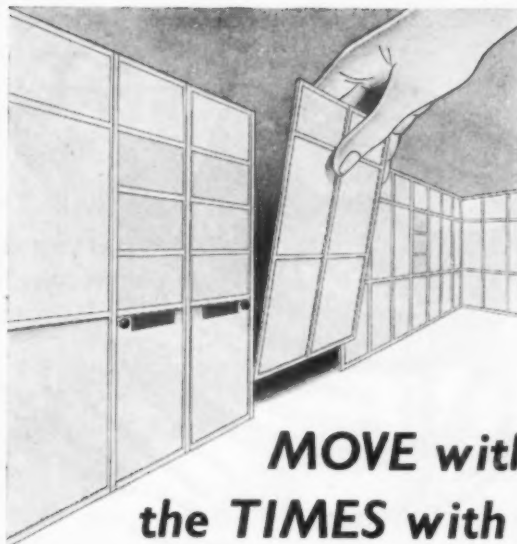
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**QUICKLY** all flooded  
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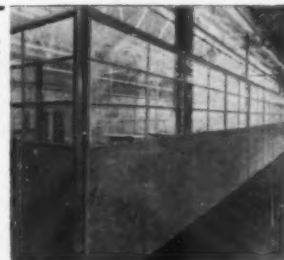
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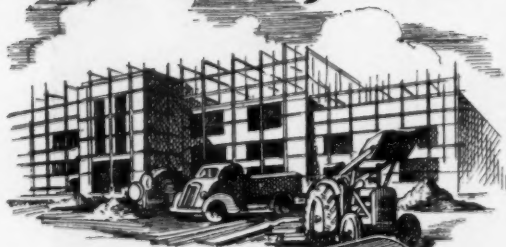
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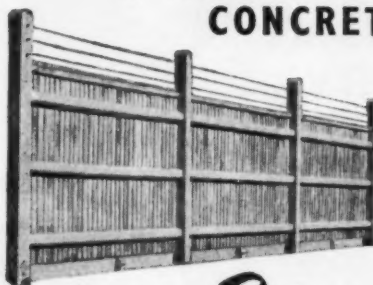
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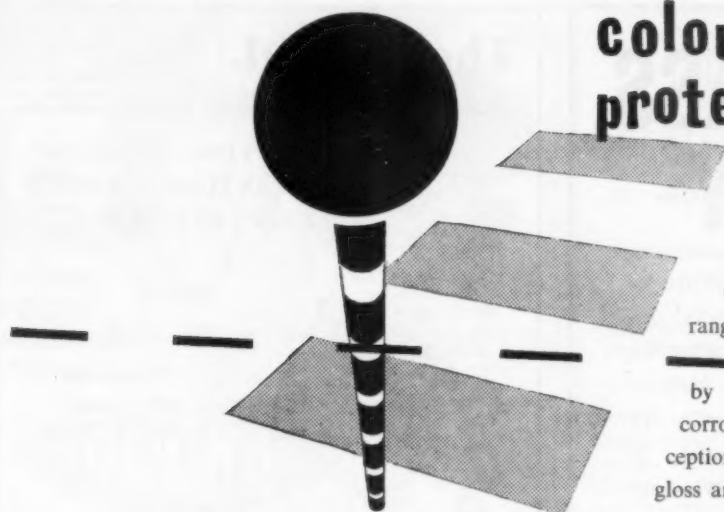
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### APPOINTMENTS

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He must be accustomed also to co-operating with related functions such as costing, planning, etc., and have a progressive approach to economic trends. Starting salary up to £2,000 a year, according to age and experience.

Write, giving full details to:  
The Chief Personnel Officer,  
Richard Costain Ltd.,

111, Westminster Bridge Road,  
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### PADDINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (£670 to £795 p.a.)

**C**ANDIDATES should be inter R.I.B.A. and be capable of preparing working and detail drawings and sketch drawings on smaller schemes. They should also be quick and competent draughtsmen, with an adequate knowledge of building bye-laws, housing manual standards and modern construction techniques.

Starting salary will be fixed according to qualifications and experience of the successful candidate. Applications (quoting A.285) should be received by me not later than 28th May, 1956, stating age, qualifications, experience, past and present appointments and names and addresses of two referees.

W. H. BENTLEY,  
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,  
Paddington Green, W.2. [2319]

### CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

#### CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

**A**PPPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments:—

- (a) Assistant Architects, Grade A.P.T. V (£795/£970 per annum)
- (b) Assistant Architects, Grade A.P.T. IV (£710/£885 per annum)
- (c) Architectural Assistants, Special Classes Ad hoc Scale (£690/£840 per annum)
- (d) Architectural Assistants, Special Classes Grade A.P.T. II (£615/£695 per annum)
- (e) Architectural Assistants, Special Classes Grade A.P.T. I (£550/£630 per annum)

Applicants for posts (a) and (b) must be Associate Members of the R.I.B.A., or hold equivalent qualifications, and for posts (c), (d) and (e), must be suitably qualified in accordance with the Regulations of the National Joint Council for Architectural Assistants.

The commencing salary in all grades will be according to capabilities and experience.

The posts are permanent, subject to a medical examination, to one month's notice on either side, and to the Provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts and the Birmingham Municipal Officers' Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Scheme.

Applications, endorsed with the heading of the post, stating age, present position and salary, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two persons to whom reference can be made, should reach the undersigned by not later than 26th May, 1956.

Canvassing disqualified.

A. G. SHEPPARD FIDLER,  
City Architect.

Civic Centre, Birmingham. 1. [2321]

### PRESS NOTICE

THE ISSUE DATED MAY 24 WILL CLOSE FOR  
PRESS FIRST POST THURSDAY, MAY 17.

### APPOINTMENTS—contd.

#### BRITISH RAILWAYS — EASTERN REGION

##### MODERNISATION PLAN

**V**ACANCIES exist in office of Architect, Eastern Region, King's Cross, for:—

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**—Salary range £872/910. Considerable experience in architectural procedure and practice and possessing organising ability. Professional qualifications or degree desirable.

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS** — Salary range dependent upon age, experience and qualifications. Should be of Intermediate R.I.B.A. standard. Five-day week, concessionary rail travel and permanency after probationary period.

Apply in writing to Chief Civil Engineer, British Railways, Eastern Region, King's Cross Station, London, N.1, giving full particulars of age, education, training and experience. [2295]

**K**ENT COUNTY COUNCIL invites applications for the following posts in the PLANNING DEPARTMENT:—

(a) **DIVISIONAL PLANNING OFFICER** in the salary grade £1,035 to £1,307 10s, which the County Council has been recommended to increase pursuant to the recent national award. Applicants must be corporate members of the Town Planning Institute and must have had considerable experience in town and country planning. Applicants should express any preferences as to duties or location which will be determined in the light of the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate and of other relevant factors.

(b) **ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL PLANNING OFFICER**, Salary within scale £640-£885 per annum. Applicants must be corporate members of the Town Planning Institute or alternatively possess an appropriate degree or diploma, and should have had at least two years' experience in town and country planning. Applicants may express any preferences as to duties or location.

National Scheme of Conditions of Service applies and registered disabled persons will be considered if they hold driving licences.

Applications, together with the names of two referees, must reach the County Planning Officer, County Hall, Maidstone, not later than the 11th June, 1956. [2322]

### COUNTY OF ESSEX

#### BOROUGH OF WALTHAMSTOW— COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION.

**A**PPPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of Senior Assistant Architect in the Office of the Education Architect, Mr. T. L. Rampton, A.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S.

Salary in accordance with A.P.T. Grade V, £795 by £35 increments to £970 per annum, plus London Weighting of £30 (under 26 years of age £20).

Applicants must be Associate Members of the R.I.B.A. and have had experience in the design and construction of schools. Experience in contract administration and control of staff an advantage.

The appointment is superannuable and subject to medical examination.

Applications on forms to be obtained from and returned to the Borough Education Officer, Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E.17, within two weeks of the appearance of this notice. [2329]

### APPOINTMENTS—contd.

#### GOVERNMENT OF LEeward ISLANDS

##### ARCHITECT —

#### SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAMME

**T**O take charge of new school building unit; to design and supervise construction of new school buildings in St. Kitts, Nevis, Anguilla, to supervise preparation of drawings, bills of quantity, contract documents and to supervise contractors during period of construction.

Contract appointment for three years. Salary £1,900 p.a. £250 p.a. gratuity on satisfactory termination of contract. Free passages for officer, wife and three children under 18. 45 days leave for each year of resident service.

Candidates must be A.R.I.B.A., with practical office experience. Experience in tropical school design will be an advantage.

Write Director of Recruitment, Colonial Office, London, S.W.1., stating age, qualifications and experience — quoting BCD 112/36/01. [2309]

### COUNTY BOROUGH OF EAST HAM

#### JUNIOR ASSISTANT PLANNING OFFICER

**G**RADE I £530 - £610. Borough Engineer's Department. Plus London Weighting. Salary above minimum and subsistence may be paid subject to conditions. Details and form from Town Clerk, E.6. Closing date 28th May, 1956. [2314]

### LONDON ELECTRICITY BOARD

#### SENIOR DRAUGHTSMEN.

**A**PPPLICATIONS are invited for the following Senior Draughtsman vacancies:—  
**NORTH EASTERN SUB-AREA** (based at Stratford, E.15). Ref.: V/2179/AA.

Candidates should have a good general and technical education preferably with some workshop training. They must be conversant with the layout of switchgear, plant and associated equipment for substations up to 11 kV. A knowledge of building and civil engineering design whilst not essential would be an advantage.

**WESTERN SUB-AREA** (based at Victoria, S.W.1). Ref.: V/2171/AA.

Candidates should have a good general and technical education and be experienced in general building and constructional engineering design with a knowledge of R.C. structures, and should be capable and experienced draughtsmen.

The posts are graded under Schedule 'D' of the National Joint Board agreement as Grade 5—£735 to £840 per annum, inclusive of London Allowance.

Application forms from Personnel Officer, 46 New Broad St., London, E.C.2. Please quote appropriate reference number of vacancy preferred. [2330]

### LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

#### ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

**S**TAFF are required for varied and interesting work in the VOLUNTARY SCHOOLS SECTION. Salary range between £620 and £817 according to experience. Intermediate standard desirable.

(1) **Surveying Assistants**—for preparation of specifications and estimates in connection with maintenance, alterations and minor improvements, and technical supervision of works.

(2) **Architectural Assistant**—for preparation of schemes for development of new and existing school sites and scrutiny of plans and designs for new primary and secondary schools. Applicants should be interested in contemporary school design.

Application forms, returnable by 31st May, from The Architect (AR/EK/VS/3), County Hall, S.E.1. (856). [2326]



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Application forms from Chief Officer of the Parks Dept., Old County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W.1. (Whitehall 3121; ext. 33). (828). [2318]

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**APPLICATIONS** are invited for the following appointments in the Borough Architect, Engineer & Surveyor's Department (F. G. Southgate, A.R.I.B.A., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.T.P.I.).

- Architectural Assistant, Grade I/II A.P.T. Division (£560—£705, inclusive of London Weighting), with the commencing salary according to qualifications and experience.
- Assistant Quantity Surveyor, Grade II A.P.T. Division (£625—£705, inclusive of London Weighting), with the commencing salary according to experience. Applicants must have had at least two years' practical experience.
- Junior Assistant Quantity Surveyor, Higher General Division (£190—£500, exclusive of London Weighting), with the commencing salary according to age and experience. Applicants are required to have some knowledge of working up bills of Quantities.

Applicants with the names of two persons for reference should be received by the undersigned not later than first post on Monday, 28th May, 1956, endorsed "Architectural Assistant," "Assistant Quantity Surveyor" or "Junior Assistant Quantity Surveyor."

G. A. BLAKELEY,  
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,  
Walthamstow, E.17.  
3/5/56. [2324]

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**PRIVATE** practice office has vacancy for Assistant willing to take control of jobs. Work includes domestic, ecclesiastical, commercial and industrial, modern and traditional. Urgent.—Send details age, experience and salary suggested to: Forsyth Lawson, Cunningham & Partners, 30 Horse Fair, Banbury, Oxon. [0094]

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—	—	Hunter, Douglas Holland (Luxabex) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	Humber Slate Work Co. . . . .	—	—	—	—	—

If no page number is quoted, please see previous issues.

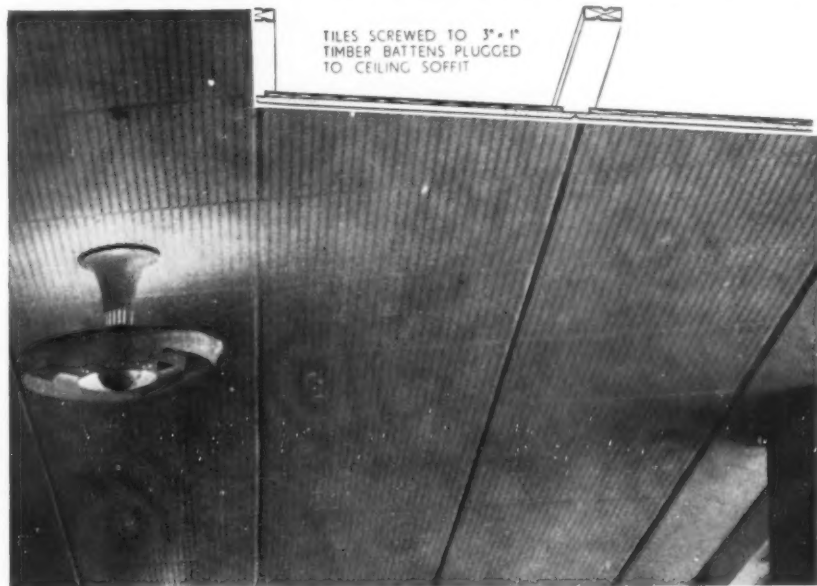
# SUPACOUST

## PERFORATED ACOUSTIC TILE

"SUPACOUST" tiles are manufactured from "Superplaster" (a fine Gypsum plaster admixed with "Superite" the plaster hardener).

"SUPACOUST" tiles combine high sound absorption with all the advantages of the plaster panels.

- EXCELLENT ACOUSTICS
- BEAUTIFUL DECORATIVE FINISH
- SIMPLE FIXING
- HYGIENIC SURFACE
- NON-COMBUSTIBLE



Typical Installation of "Supacoust" Tiles

### Performance

Frequency (Cycles per second)	125	250	320	400	500	1000	2000	4000
SUPACOUST TILE with glassfibre quilt backing fixed on timber battens	0.25	0.55	0.65	0.65	0.60	0.35	0.25	0.20
SUPACOUST TILE with 1in wood wool backing	0.10	0.30	0.45	0.55	0.60	0.30	0.40	0.25
SUPACOUST TILE fixed direct on plaster board	0.15	0.10	*	*	0.20	0.35	0.50	0.60
SUPACOUST TILE left open at back	0.90	0.35	*	*	0.75	0.60	0.15	0.25

\* Not tested at this frequency.

### Sizes

Standards (supplied from stock) 24in x 24in x  $\frac{5}{8}$ in    24in x 12in x  $\frac{5}{8}$ in    30in x 15in x  $\frac{5}{8}$ in  
Other sizes to specification.

### Weight

Standard Tiles: 2½lb per sq. ft.

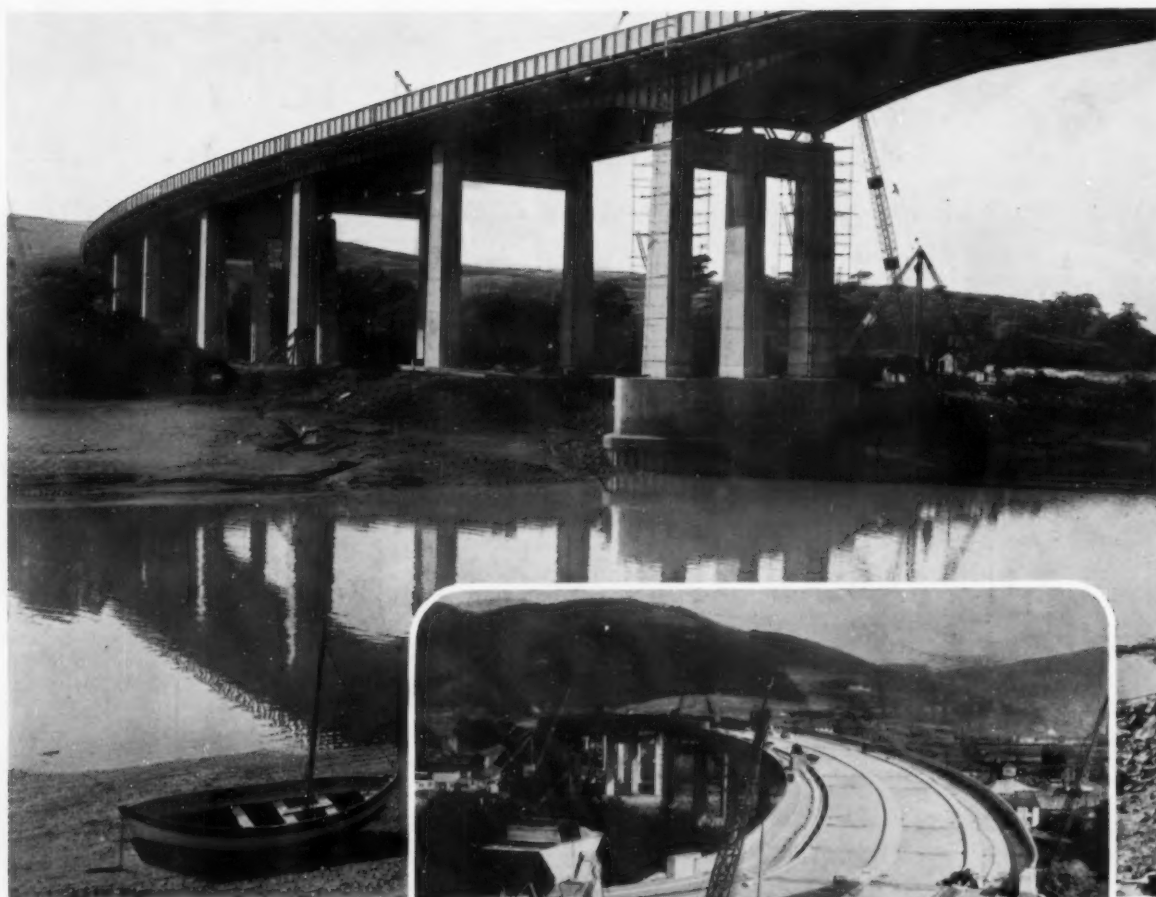
If Vermiculite Plaster is used: 1½ — 2lb per sq. ft.

"Supacoust" tiles can be fixed to any surface by screwing. It is normal to fix only at the corners so that support for the standard panels is required only at 2ft 0in centres of say, 3in x 1in timber battens. Quotations will be gladly given for either (a) Supply to the Site only, for fixing by the General Contractor, or (b) Supply and fixing as a Subcontract.

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23-39 BENDON VALLEY, GARRATT LANE,  
LONDON, S.W.18 Tel. BAttersea 2497/8/9





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